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四月十四日光三十三年四月十日

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1908.

六月九日五英港香

ANNUAL
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Hongkong, 23rd March, 1908. [23]

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CAPITAL PAID UP GOLD \$3,250,000
ABOUT MEX \$7,222,222

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LONDON OFFICE:
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NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF
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BRANCHES AND AGENTS ALL OVER THE
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THE Corporation transacts every Description
of Banking and Exchange Business,
receives Money in Current Account at the
rate of 2% per annum on daily balances and ac-
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6 " 4 " "

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No. 9, Queen's Road Central,
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W. M. ANDERSON,
Manager.

Hongkong, 8th April, 1908. [25]

NEEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL
MAATSCHAPPIJ. (Netherlands Trading Society.)

ESTABLISHED 1824.

PAID-UP CAPITAL FL. 45,000,000 (£3,750,000).
RESERVE FUND FL. 5,378,375
(about £48,000).

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THE Bank buys and sells and receives for
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letters of credit on its Branches and cor-
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transacts banking business of every description.

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On Current Accounts 2% per annum on daily
balances.

Fixed Deposits 12 months 4% per annum.

Do. 6 do. 4% do.

Do. 3 do. 3% do.

J. L. VAN HOUTEN,
Manager.

Hongkong, 18th November, 1907. [26]

Hotels.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

FIRST CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE.
Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.

A. F. DAVIES,
Manager. [27]

Hongkong, 21st June, 1907.

CONNAUGHT HOTEL, HONGKONG.

A FIRST-CLASS EUROPEAN HOTEL
SITUATED IN THE MAIN STREET NEAR THE BANKS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICES.
STRICTLY EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT.

Wines and Spirits of the very Best Quality.
Bath to Every Room.
Hot and Cold Water Throughout.
Hotel Launch Meets all Steamers.
Special Terms for Tourists and Parties or Families.

FOR TERMS APPLY TO—

THE MANAGER & AGENT

Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$15,000,000

RESERVE FUNDS \$15,000,000

Sterling
\$1,500,000 at 1/2 = \$15,000,000

Silver \$13,500,000

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For 3 months, 3% per cent. per annum.

For 6 months, 3% per cent. per annum.

For 12 months, 4% per cent. per annum.

J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 23rd April, 1908. [24]

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THE Business of the above Bank is conducted
by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
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BANKING CORPORATION,

J. R. M. SMITH,
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Hongkong, 12th January, 1907. [28]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,
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INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.

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JOHN ARMSTRONG,
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Hongkong, 6th January, 1908. [29]

DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.

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DIRECTION DER DISCONTO GESELLSCHAFT.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account.

DEPOSITS received on terms which may be
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Banking and Exchange business transacted.

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SHERRIES,
MARSALAS,
MADEIRAS,
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HOCKS & MOSELLES,
BRANDIES,
GINS,
WHISKIES,
VERMOUTHS,
BITTERS,
LIQUEURS,
ALES, BEERS & STOUTS.

Telephone
No. 75.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

15, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 11th April, 1908. [40]

CHAMPAGNE.

G. H. MUMM & CO.

THE MOST POPULAR WINE

Can be had in the following qualities:

EXTRA DRY (Gout Americain).

BRUT (Cordon Rouge).

Sales in the United States exceed the total of
all other Brands.

Served in all Clubs and First-class Hotels,
and obtainable at all Wine Merchants in the
Colony, and from Shewan, Tomes & Co., sole
agents.

14

KOWLOON HOTEL.

The only First-class Establishment in the Peninsula.

Five minutes' walk from the Ferry Wharf.

Entrance Chater and Elgin Road.

Surrounded with Delightful Gardens.

Swept off with Sea-breezes.

Mails.

INTIMATION.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP and HAMBURG	"PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH"	WEDNESDAY, Noon, 20th May.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	"PRINZ HEINRICH"	About WEDNESDAY, 20th May.
MANILA, NEWGUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE	"PRINZ SIGISMUND"	THURSDAY, 5 P.M., 21st May.
KUDAT and SANDAKAN	"Borneo"	Middle of May.

For further Particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD MELCHERS & CO.,

GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong, 7th May, 1908.

[18]

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO and FROM EUROPE via SUEZ CANAL
TO and FROM JAPAN via SHANGHAI.

FOR STEAMERS CAPTAINS TO SAIL ON.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA...ERNEST SIMONS...Girard 11th May, afternoon.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS...AUSTRALIEN...Veron 12th May, 1 P.M.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA...TONKIN Charbonnel, 25th May, afternoon.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS VARA Sellier 26th May, 1 P.M.

Transhipment on the Co's Steamers at Singapore for Batavia; Colombo for Calcutta, Bombay and Australia; at Port Said for the Levant, Constantinople and Black Sea.

Through Tickets to London via Paris from £27.10 up to £71.10, 20 hours' railway from Marseilles to London.

Interpreters meet passengers at their arrival in Marseilles.

For further particulars, apply to

P. NALIN,
ACTING AGENT,
QUEEN'S BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 8th May, 1908.

[14]

CHARGEURS RÉUNIS.

FRENCH STEAMSHIP CO.—HEAD OFFICE: PARIS.

ALL ROUND THE WORLD LINE.

Outward: ANTWERP, DUNKIRK, LA PALICE, MARSEILLES, GENOA, NAPLES, COLOMBO, VIA SUEZ, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, CHINAWANTAO (Peking, Tientsin), KOBE, YOKOHAMA.

GENOA to HONGKONG in 30 DAYS.

NAPLES 29

Unique opportunity to make a tour in North-China and Japan with the Greatest Speed, Safety and Comfort.

Transpacífico: VICTORIA (B.C.), VANCOUVER, SEATTLE, SAN FRANCISCO. Connecting with the Canadian Pacific Railway.

FREIGHT TO OVERLAND.

PASSENGERS TO OVERLAND and EUROPE via VANCOUVER

YOKOHAMA—VANCOUVER 13 DAYS.

LONDON and PARIS 26

Homeward: MEXICO, RIVER PLATE, BRAZIL, LA PALICE, LIVERPOOL via MAGELLAN STRAITS.

Proposed Sailings:

AMIRAL MAGOM 4th June. MALTE 10th Oct.
AMIRAL EXELMANS 25th July. CEYLAN 26th Nov.

QUESANT 27th Aug. CORSE 18th Jan.

No passengers. * Intermediate class and rates of passage.

New Twin Screw 16,000 T. displac., 1st class accommodation, splendidly equipped, with single berth cabins. All round the world ticket by these boats.

For further particulars, apply to

P. NALIN, FRENCH MAIL OFFICE.

Hongkong, 8th May, 1908.

[460]

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

HONGKONG-WU CHOW LINE.

THE Steamers "LINTAN" and "SAN-UI". SAIL FROM HONGKONG TWICE A WEEK AND COMPLETE THE ROUND TRIP IN 4 DAYS.

These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted Throughout by Electricity.

THE CLIMATE ON THE WEST RIVER DURING THE WINTER MONTHS IS VERY FINE AND EXHILIRATING.

For further information apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS, WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. COMPANIES.

Hongkong, 28th March, 1908.

[17]

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

NO. 1 DOCK.

Length inside 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

NO. 2 DOCK.

Length inside, 875 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft; bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 2 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour, and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyds' surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Tugboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 376, 506, or 681.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt.

Lieber, Scott, A. 1, and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1908.

THE NEW LEADER.

PERSONAL STUDY.

The first time when I saw and heard Mr. Asquith was more than twenty years ago, when he was engaged in what now appears the curious occupation of appearing for Mr. Jesse Collings in an election petition at Ipswich. Mr. Asquith was junior to the case to the late Mr. Waddy—and it may be added that, in spite of the exertions of these two learned gentlemen, Mr. Collings fell a victim to the indiscipline of others, and was unseated without a stain on his character. In the election which followed one of the Liberal candidates was the late Lord Aveley; then Sir Horace Davey, Solicitor-General. That learned man was looking for a seat—as was often the case with him—and it was not surprising that Mr. Asquith, an ambitious young barrister, should come down to speak on behalf of one of the Law Officers.

TWENTY YEARS AFTER.

He came and he spoke—and, just as his forensic eloquence in the position case had failed to save Jesse, so his platform eloquence failed to induce the free and independent electors to accept Sir Horace. But these things took place in the very earliest years of his public career, when he was quite unknown. I am really ashamed to relate the incident, but it happened that during that contest Mr. Asquith and I were to speak, at the same meeting, and, hideously comic though it may appear to-day, it is the fact that I was put up before him, and he had to be content with a few minutes at the end! I wonder what would happen now if we were brought into platform competition—or, rather, I do not wonder, I know all too well—for he is Prime Minister and I am—what I am!

It has been my lot to watch the right hon. gentleman at closer quarters during most of the years that have followed since the occasion of the Ipswich speeches. I have no intention of writing a biographical sketch or tabulating the incidents in his career, but will rather jot down a few of the results of this study of a character. And first of all, let me say with regard to the most common of all the criticisms levelled at him—his alleged coldness or frigidity of disposition—I am by no means sure that this is a correct view of his character. It is made by the same sort of people as those who used to say that Thackeray was a bitter cynic. It is the result of a superficial glance at the man, and there is much to excuse such a conclusion being arrived at by those who are content with exploring only the surface.

AN ABRUPT CONCLUSION.

The fact is Mr. Asquith does not suffer fools gladly—and no man can go far in politics without being confronted by men of that undesirable type. He has, or seems to have, an intellectual contempt for many of his opponents, and I am far from saying that he is *wrong*. Of course, his attitude to a really able opponent is very different, but some of his most noisy opponents are not able at all. Let me give an example of his method. Quite recently a member asked if he was to draw certain conclusions from an answer which the right hon. gentleman had given. "Draw what conclusions you like," remarked Mr. Asquith, not troubling even to move his head from the back of the Treasury Bench. Such a retort might in some circumstances have been merely rude—but everything depends on the circumstances. The question had been put by Mr. Stanley Wilson, in a hectoring and bullying tone, and it had been put not to obtain information, but in the hope of making a hit. The answer was, both in substance and in style, admirably suited to the occasion.

Next to his alleged frigidity the quality generally mentioned in connection with Mr. Asquith's mental outfit is his brilliance, and here the critics have more reason for what they attribute to him. For Mr. Asquith's career has been marked by brilliance all through as a school-boy, as an ornament of Balliol, and as a statesman. Some think that brilliant men are those who are content to trust to their mental endowments and gifts, leaving hard work and plodding to others. This is not only not correct in regard to Mr. Asquith, but is the very reverse of the truth. He is a veritable monster of work. During the last few weeks, when he has had to bear an exceptional burden of responsibility, and has been confronted by almost innumerable duties, he has astonished even his colleagues who thought they knew him thoroughly, by his power of concentrated and continuous work. Nor is there anything slip-shod in his methods. He is quick, thorough, and accurate, and is never flustered or excited, but goes away like a tireless intellectual machine.

HEAD AND HEART.

Probably he was the only man in the kingdom who could have done what he did when Mr. Chamberlain started out on his career as "missionary of Empire," as he described himself. Mr. Asquith followed him round the country, subjecting to pitiless cross-examination his rhetorical allusions to Empire and his curious assortment of figures, used not in their arithmetical sense, but as illustrations. Mr. Asquith recognised that this was in the end a great business problem—and though his training had been at the Bar, while his opponent had been trained in large commercial undertakings, Mr. Asquith beat the man of business at his own game. It is impossible to overestimate the value of the services which he then rendered to the country.

Moreover, during the last couple of years he has proved not only a most able but also a perfectly loyal lieutenant to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman. And of late he has enormously increased his grip on the House of Commons. Men have come to see that the supposed coldness of disposition is part of a Parliamentary legend. He is not given to making emotional displays in public, and he could not play to the gallery if he would. But those who have been brought into contact with him in private consultation all agree that he is by no means lacking in depth of feeling. No one has ever doubted the strength of his brain—and those who know say that his brain is in the right place. His recent tributes to the Duke of Devonshire, and above all, the few words he spoke, and spoke with evident difficulty, yesterday about his old, honoured, and beloved chief, have shown men that Mr. Asquith can be touched and swayed by emotion. He has no ordinary task before him in taking the place of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman—but he brings to that task gifts and qualities which are not only not ordinary but are conspicuous and exceptional.

—S. L. H. in *London Morning Leader*.

—S. L. H. in *London Morning*

Intimation.

Wm. Powell, Ltd.
Des Voeux Road,
and

ALEXANDRA
BUILDINGS.

BATHING
COSTUMES.

Combinations
with Skirt.

NAVY & RED
TWILL.

\$4.50 to \$5.50.

BATHING
COSTUMES.

NAVY SERGE
trimmed white,
\$4.75 to \$11.00.

BATHING
COSTUMES.

Wm. Powell,
LTD.,
Des Voeux Road,
and
28, Queen's Road,
HONGKONG.

Auction.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to Sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,

FRIDAY,

the 15th May, 1908, at 5 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road Central, corner of Ice House Street.

A Fine and Valuable Collection of POSTAGE STAMPS, & C. T. A. M. P. S., in lots to suit purchasers.

(Particulars from Catalogue).

TERMS.—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 8th May, 1908. [487]

To Let.

TO LET.

A HOUSE in KNUTSFORD TERRACE, Kowloon.

No. 3, CANTON VILLAS.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO. LTD.

Hongkong, 1st April, 1908. [490]

TO LET.

CHAMBERS in No. 3, WYNNDHAM STREET, late Hotel Baltimore, rent moderate.

First Floor of No. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD, Central, containing 6 Rooms and Servants' Quarter.

ONE ROOM with Verandah and a SMALL ROOM on the Second Floor of No. 8 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, above our office, suitable for Business Premises or Dwelling.

Apply to—
DAVID SASOON & CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1908. [487]

TO LET.

ONE FOUR-ROOMED HOUSE, at PRAYA EAST, near East Point.

Apply to—
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 21st March, 1908. [488]

TO LET.

OFFICES and ROOMS on the 1st and 2nd Floors of No. 14, Des Voeux Road Central (formerly occupied by Messrs. Shaw, Tones & Co.).

Apply to—
THE COMPRADORE DEPARTMENT,
Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.,
Connaught Road Central.

Hongkong, 24th February, 1908. [488]

TO LET.

HATHERLEIGH, CONDUIT ROAD.

A HOUSE in RIBON TERRACE.
OFFICES in YORK BUILDING.

GODOWNS in PRAYA EAST, BLUE BUILDINGS, and No. 16B, DES VOEUX ROAD next to the Hongkong Hotel.

FLATS in MORETON TERRACE.

OFFICES on TOP FLOOR, No. 2, CONNAUGHT ROAD, facing the Cricket Ground.

No. 10, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, 1st Floor.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO. LTD.

Hongkong, 9th May, 1908. [466]

TO LET.

HOUSES in AUSTIN AVENUE, Kowloon facing harbour, cheap rental.

Apply to—
A. RAYMOND,

C/o S. J. David & Co.

Hongkong, 7th May, 1908. [481]

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 5A, DUDDELL STREET.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO. LTD.

Hongkong, 8th May, 1908. [492]

TO LET.

4-ROOMED HOUSES in GAP ROAD near the Race Course within easy access to the Lower Level Tramway. Rent very moderate.

FLATS for Europeans in WILD DELY BUILDINGS, No. 147, Wan Chai Road.

Apply to—
PERCY SMITH & SETH.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1907. [72]

TO LET.

NOS. 4 and 8, LEIGHTON HILL ROAD.

Apply to—
HONGKONG AND KOWLOON LAND AND LOAN CO. LTD.

No. 8, Queen's Road West.

Hongkong, 30th March, 1908. [426]

Dentistry.

Dr. M. H. CHAUN

THE LATEST METHOD.

of the

AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY

53, Queen's Road Central, U.S.A.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1908. [493]

TSIN TING.

LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.

STUDIO AT NO. 14, D'AGUILAR STREET.

REASONABLE FEES.

Consultation Free.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1908. [494]

A MILLIONAIRE'S YACHT.

LAUNCH OF THE "IOLANDA".

London, April 4.

Hard upon the announcement that many of the big steam yachts of the rich men of New York are up for sale has followed the launching in Scotland of Commodore Morton F. Plant's palatial pleasure craft, the *Iolandia*.

Excelled in size only by James Gordon Bennett's steam yacht, which visited Hongkong last month, in respect of the luxury and costliness of her fittings and fixings, the *Iolandia* surpasses that famous vessel. When she goes into commission a few months hence she will undoubtedly be the finest pleasure craft afloat. She is bigger and more sumptuous than the *Alexander*, the steam yacht just completed for Edward VII.

The principal dimensions of the *Iolandia* are: Length over all 305 feet; beam 37 feet; inches and depth 23 feet. She is about 2,000 tons yacht measurement and was designed by Cox and King of London, under whose supervision the yachts belonging to most of the crowned heads of Europe have been built. Her twin screw machinery is of the triple-expansion type of 3,000 to 4,000 horse-power.

Everything possible is provided to render the new yacht thoroughly up-to-date, including motor and steam launches, quick-firing guns, an elaborate system of electric lighting, which is the largest ever installed in a private yacht. Her designers have made arrangements for use of wireless telegraphy and a submarine signalling system is also installed.

The accommodation for owner and guests comprises drawing and dining rooms, library, smoking-rooms and other saloons, with owner's staterooms, etc., superbly fitted throughout, the general idea of style being Queen Anne and early Georgian.

GHOST HUNTING.

A NEW PROFESSION.

London, April 4.

A Society has been formed here for the extermination of ghosts. It offers to lay ghosts to rest for a fee. No matter how persistent, how terrifying a midnight visitor may be, the members of the organization stand ready to lay in wait for him, or her, or it, and knock his, or her, or its head off with a stout oaken stick.

The scheme is the idea of Charles Dove, formerly a commercial traveller, but at present the proprietor of a diminutive resort for refreshments in one of the poorer districts of London. It seems that this establishment, hardly big enough for a good-sized man to turn about in, is the meeting-place of a club of English athletes. That is, the members of the club called themselves athletes, but their energies never took them beyond a perusal and discussion of the latest sporting news in the morning and evening papers.

When Dove mentioned his plan to the athletes, they took to it like ducks to water. Advertisements were sent to the London papers, carrying the good news that any place could be rid of its spectral figures by the mere payment of a substantial fee. The "Death on Ghosts" brigade declare that they will use no firearms, but will proceed to their work armed only with handy oak sticks. The society has received scores of applications for assistance. Although all the ghost warriors profess disbelief in ghosts it has been decided wise always to send two hunters to lay away a dis-turbing spook.

FACSIMILES FROM A SCIENTIST'S NOTE BOOK.

Some of the great Atlantic liners employ 150 firemen.

All German soldiers must learn to swim. Some of them are so expert that, with their clothing on their heads and carrying guns and ammunition, they can swim streams several hundred yards wide.

Plants with white blossoms have a larger proportion of fragrant species than any others; next comes red, then yellow and blue. Many of the flowers of spring are white and highly fragrant; those of autumn and winter being darker, with less perfume.

A Paris journalist has founded a babies' club. It is a spacious and pleasant building, with a garden and a club house where games of all kinds are provided. There is a Punch and Judy show, and a cafe, where sweets, cakes, tea, milk and various kinds of lemonade are sold to members and their parents, while there are also innumerable toy shops and a theatre.

There are reckoned to be at least 800,000 coconut trees in existence in full bearing.

The oldest known English picture is one of Chaucer, painted on panel in the year 1360.

There are never fewer than 40,000 tramps in England. Hard times double that number.

Burning orange peel has the faculty of dissipating the odour of tobacco that smokes in a room.

Among the birds the swan lives to be the oldest, in extreme cases reaching 300 years.

The falcon has been known to live 162 years. The first place of worship in Western Australia was unique in two respects—the materials of which it was built and also the several purposes to which it was devoted. This remarkable building was made at Perth by soldiers shortly after their first arrival in 1829, and was composed almost entirely of bullock's hide, addition to its use on Sundays for divine worship, it occasionally served as an amateur theatre in the week and during the whole time as a barracks.

The greatest heat is never found on the equator but some ten degrees to the north, while more severe cold has been registered in Northern Siberia than has been found near the pole.

The value of all kinds of fish landed in England and Wales in one year is over \$15,000,000, and the number of men and boys employed over 40,000.

Red glass, because of its reflection, while blue

glass grows fifteen times higher under red glass than under blue.

Trained falcons to carry dispatches in the time of war have been tested in the Russian army. Their speed is four times as rapid as that of carrier pigeons.

Zinc coffins are largely used in Vienna, but the more expensive ones are made of copper, and cost as much as \$2,000, while a bronze and copper coffin recently made for a Russian archduke cost over \$5,000.

Metals get tired as well as living beings, a scientist declares. Telegraph wires are better conductors, on Monday than Saturday on account of their Sunday rest, and a rest of three weeks adds to per cent. to the conductivity of a wire.

The grandest train in the world is the Kaiser's. It cost \$2,000,000 and took three years to build. In the twelve sumptuous saloons are two curiouse coaches, a gymnasium, a music room, and a drawing room furnished with oil paintings and statuary. The treasure room, with its two safes, is burglar-proof.

Picture books for the benefit of travellers are kept in the Paris police stations. It frequently occurs that foreigners lose things which they are unable to describe, because of their unfamiliarity with the French language. The picture books contain representations of various articles, and the inquirer has only to turn the leaves and point out the illustrations which resemble the property he has lost.

The most remarkable burglar-proof safe in the world has just been placed in a bank at Newberg island. At night the safe is lowered by cables into an impregnable metallic lined subvault of masonry and concrete. After reaching the bottom is fastened down by massive steel lugs, operated by a triple-time lock. Until these lugs are released automatically at a desired time, no human agency can raise the safe, and to break in through a mass of stone and concrete, which measures ten feet by ten feet by sixteen feet with dynamite would wreck the building without making the safe available.

Rabbits, says a naturalist, have white tails so that the young may be able to distinguish their mother in case of pursuit. The colour of a rabbit is so like that of the ground that this would otherwise be difficult, if not impossible.

Intimations.

MUSIC LESSON.

LESSONS in Violin, Mandoline and Guitars at pupil's residence.

Evening engagements for Dances and Concerts.

Apply to—
E. J. LOPEZ,
C/o Hongkong Telegraph Office.

Hongkong, 9th March, 1908. [482]

JAPANESE MASSAGE,

F. KAWASAKI.

GRADUATE of KOBE MASSAGE SCHOOL,

No. 36C, PRAYA EAST, WANCHAI,

HONGKONG,

Telephone 564.

EFFECTIVE TREATMENT
OF
BERI-BERI AND RHEUMATISM.

Attendance at Patients' Residence.

Hongkong, 2nd May, 1908. [379]

WE WILL SELL OUR ENTIRE STOCK OF

ACCESORIES

at 50 % less than usual

prices for one week only,

to clear our old stock

and make room for our new shops at Nos. 33 &

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

WATSON'S



VERY OLD LIQUEUR

SCOTCH

WHISKY

A Blend of the Finest Pure Malt
Whiskies distilled in Scotland

GENUINE AGE
AND
FINE MELLOW
FLAVOUR.

Per Case - - - \$16.50

Watson's

D. SHERRY
SUPERIOR PALE DRY.

Per Dozen \$10.50

A VERY FINE WINE, POPULAR
THROUGHOUT THE FAR EAST.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,

LIMITED,

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1908.

BIRTH.
On May 3, 1908, at Shanghai, to Mr. Mrs.
F. X. SAVARD-REMEDIOS, a son.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1908.

JAPANESE FINANCES.

The financial situation in Japan is anything but reassuring. From the 'Chronicle' of Kobe, we learn that the estimated deficit in the Government revenue for the present year is to be made good by Y350,000,000 saved by the postponement of projected undertakings, a surplus from the preceding years amounting to Y40,000,000, and the increase of taxation estimated to yield a revenue of Y4,900,000. In the present financial conditions, it is considered hopeless to issue bonds as proposed (a large portion of the "surplus" is represented by unused bonds), and the excess of imports over exports is expected to continue longer, so that if the financial conditions remain as at present, it is feared that the basis of the Government finance will be seriously disturbed.

In view of this, Mr. Matsuda, Minister of Finance, having consulted with Mr. Hara, Home Minister, and Marquis Saionji, Premier, has decided to further postpone projected Government undertakings. The appropriation of the War Office—Y32,000,000—to be raised by means of bonds, and the expenditure of the Communications Department—Y40,000,000—also to be raised by bonds, are the principal items upon which the Minister of Finance has fixed his attention. If the Ministers of War and Communications agree, military works representing about Y20,000,000 in value, and railway undertakings to the extent of several million yen, will be postponed in addition to the works already deferred.

PRINCE SU, President of the Ministry of the Interior, is reported to have decided upon the organization of a police force, which will be composed of officers whom it may be difficult or impossible to distinguish from certain classes of people whose dress or manners they may think it fit to assume, in order that they may the more easily detect crimes, or prevent the commission of such as require any previous combination or arrangement. His Highness will also organize a body of mounted police officers for the patrol of the streets of Peking.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE strike of the coalheavers at Moi is ended. MAJOR-General Broadwood left Tainan on 3rd inst. for Japan.

THE native edition of the *Korea Daily News* has been suspended from publication.

MR. GROVER CLEVELAND, former President of the United States, is dying of cancer in the stomach.

A TOKIO despatch, of 3rd inst., says that two Korean newspapers at San Francisco have suspended.

A TELEGRAM has been received from the Government of Burma declaring Hongkong to be an infected port.

MR. ALFRED BRAYER has been appointed a Visiting Justice to the Po Leung Kuk since Mr. Duncan Clark, resigned.

A CORRECTED copy of the register of medical and surgical practitioners qualified to practise medicine and surgery in this Colony, is published in the *Gazette*.

THE Japanese Cabinet is considering a further postponement of the railway works and of the naval and military programmes contemplated under the present budget.

IT is notified that the cancellation of the memorial of re-entry by the Crown on New Kowloon Survey District III Lot No. 720 has been registered according to law.

THE Imperial Commissioner of Opium Prohibition are of opinion that the limit of ten years granted for the complete prohibition of opium is too protracted and should be reduced to six years for the more prompt eradication of opium smoking.

BARON GOLO, President of the South Manchuria Railway, left Harbin on 6th inst. for St. Petersburg, in a special car provided by the Russians, in order to negotiate the question of railway connexion between the Manchurian and Siberian systems.

AN amusing story comes from Asahi, Japan, where a well-known Japanese magician, Teiichi, who is noted for his skill in mesmerism, was mesmerized by Sadachi, a young member of his company. Sadachi stole Y10 from his master's purse and absconded.

SUNDAY, May 10th, will be observed in St. John's Cathedral as Bible Sunday and half the total amount of the offerings on that day will be given to the British and Foreign Bible Society. The preacher at Evansport will be the Rev. J. H. France, M.A., Chaplain of the Missions to Seamen.

A TELEGRAPHIC despatch from Anking (capital of Anhui) states that order has been restored in Yinghan, where the building of the Roman Catholic mission had been destroyed and the Magistrate's yamen burnt down by a number of rioters. It is added that nineteen ring-leaders have been arrested and summarily decapitated.

IN response to a memorial from the Ministry of Education, asking for special recognition by the Throne for the Japanese professors in the Peking University who have completed their agreement of five years in that institution, an Imperial Rescript has been issued whereby the professors have been decorated with the stars of the Double Dragon of the 2nd Class, 2nd Division.

ON the night of the 1st instant a rice shop at Yawosha, near Woosung, was visited, by a body of robbers armed with swords and revolvers, and spoil, to the value of over Y1,000, was carried away. Directly after the robbery, a report was sent to the Magistrate of Pohansien, who at once dispatched a number of soldiers after the robbers, but no arrest was effected.

RETURNS of the average amount of banknotes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th April, 1908, as certified by the managers of the respective banks:

	Average	Specie in
	Amount.	Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	\$3,408,885	\$1,800,000

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

14,833,837	10,000,000
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National Bank of China, Limited

259,560	150,000
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Total, \$18,853,252 12,950,000

ATTENTION is directed to the advertisement announcing the special cheap excursion to Macao, to-morrow. The Steamboat Co. are considering the convenience of their patrons by assigning the favourite steamer *Hungkow* to the Macao service to-morrow, and the schedule of departures is an eminently suitable one to all contemplating a sea-trip to-morrow—9 a.m. from Hongkong and 3 p.m. from Macao. The Military Band on board should again prove an attractive feature. Last Sunday provided the best trip of the season, and given the present ideal weather there is no reason why the Steamboat Co. should not be encouraged into making the *Hungkow*'s weekly excursions a permanent fixture.

THE Siamese torpedo-boat destroyer *Sau Tuyen Chon*, now being built at the Kawasaki Dockyard, Kobe, was successfully launched at 5 o'clock on the afternoon of the 7th inst., in the presence of a very large number of invited guests, amongst whom were the Siamese Chargé d'Affaires in Tokyo, Baron Ritan, a Siamese officer sent to watch the construction of the boat, Mr. J. B. Sattler (Australian Commercial Agent), Mr. Yamamoto (Chief Prosecutor of the Osaka Chiba Sabansho), and Mr. Minakami, Mayor of Kobe. The vessel was named by Mrs. Hattori, wife of the Governor of Hyogo prefecture. The *Sau Tuyen Chon* is 27 feet long, 23 feet wide, and 7.4 feet deep, and will be capable of a speed of 47 knots. The draught is 6 feet, and is of 375 tons displacement. The armament will consist of one 12-pounder quick-firer and five 6-pounder quick-firers, with two Maxim guns.

PRINCE SU, President of the Ministry of the Interior, is reported to have decided upon the organization of a police force, which will be composed of officers whom it may be difficult or impossible to distinguish from certain classes of people whose dress or manners they may think it fit to assume, in order that they may the more easily detect crimes, or prevent the commission of such as require any previous combination or arrangement. His Highness will also organize a body of mounted police officers for the patrol of the streets of Peking.

Piracy near Canton.

"STAND AND DELIVER!"

THE "TAI HAN" HELD UP.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 8th May.

Yesterday morning the steam launch *Tai Hang* left here for the Ching Yuen district, and when she was proceeding on her way a few miles from Canton several pirates, who had boarded the launch under the guise of passengers, rushed up, all of a sudden, to the deck and commanded the purser of the vessel to "stand and deliver." Revolvers were held over the head of the purser, needless to say the demand of the robbers was complied with. The purser surrendered all the money then in his possession which was, fortunately, not very much. The amount of cash yielded was only thirty dollars. Little as the money was the pirates were content with the result of their enterprise. They then ordered the master of the launch to steer the vessel in the direction of the river bank where they landed and took to flight. The crew of the vessel also disembarked and pursued the men. Upon an alarm being raised assistance was at once at hand and the culprits were arrested.

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THE maximum draught of vessels navigating the Suez Canal having been increased since January 1st, the regulation then in force has been modified as follows:—"The passage through the Canal is open to all vessels, whether nationality, 'on condition that their draught of water does not exceed 8.53 metres.' The maximum draught is thus increased one English foot, or from 27 ft. to 28 ft."

MR. J. M. DE GRACA, a clerk in the employ of Messrs. Melchers & Co., prosecuted two public chair coolies in the Police Court, this morning, for using insulting and abusive language towards him, yesterday. The complainant, it appears, engaged the defendant's chair to return home, and the coolies, who, apparently, did not like the trip, as they knew they would be paid the legal fare, became most impudent all the way. Arriving home Mr. Graca gave them into custody. They were each fined \$5.

ON the whole, the development of the German high commercial schools is most satisfactory. The steadily growing attendance of most of them proves that this latest addition to the German system of academic institutions was really wanted. There is, however, one exception to the rule. The commercial department annexed to the Engineering College at Aix-la-Chapelle shows only fourteen students on the roll. With this small attendance the number of the four other commercial high schools that enjoy complete independence contrasts most remarkably. At the oldest institution of this kind, that of Leipzig, we find 571 students. Then—follow Cologne, that was founded seven years ago, with 361, and the Berlin Commercial High School, founded a year ago, with 367 students, while the Frankfort-on-the-Main Institute reports 255. Most encouraging is the rapid development of the Berlin commercial school, that has been splendidly endowed by the Corporation of Berlin Merchants and is in its organization far in advance of its rivals. Compared with the previous year the attendance of all German high commercial schools rose from 1,567 to 1,578. These figures prove that the idea to give a solid theoretical basis to the professional training of future merchants has found approval and is gaining ground among the business men of Germany.

SHIPPING AND MAILS

MAILS OFF.

French (*Ernest Simons*) 12th inst.

American (*Soung Po*) 14th inst.

English (*Dith*) 13th inst. 7 a.m.

The s.s. *Zafiro* left Manila on 9th inst. at 10 a.m., and is due here on 11th inst. at 6 p.m.

The s.s. *Satsuma* left Shanghai this morning, and may be expected to arrive here on 12th inst., morning.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Yawata Maru*, Australian Line, left Manila for this port on 9th inst. and is expected here on 11th inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Kamakura Maru*, European Line, left Shanghai for this port on 8th inst., and is expected here on 10th inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Kumano Maru*, Australian Line, left Nagasaki for this port on 8th inst., and is expected here on 10th inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Asuka Maru*, American Line, left Kobe for this port via Moi and Shanghai on 8th inst., and is expected here on 11th inst.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s s.s. *Delta* left Singapore for this port on 8th inst. at 5 p.m. with 1,600 to 2,000 souls on board. My comprehension of the above is as follows:

1. The *Delta* is a large ship, 1,600 to 2,000 tons.

2. The *Delta* is a large ship, 1,600 to 2,000 tons.

3. The *Delta* is a large ship, 1,600 to 2,000 tons.

4. The *Delta* is a large ship, 1,600 to 2,000 tons.

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11. The *Delta* is a large ship, 1,600 to 2,000 tons.

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14. The *Delta* is a large ship, 1,600 to 2,000 tons.

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16. The *Delta* is a large ship, 1,600 to 2,000 tons.

17. The *Delta* is a large ship, 1,600 to 2,000 tons.

18. The *Delta* is a large ship, 1,600 to 2,000 tons.

19. The *Delta* is a large ship, 1,600 to 2,000 tons.

Anti-Opium Campaign.

POSITION OF THE HONGKONG MONOPOLY.

OPIUM FARMER INTERVIEWED.

The seriousness of the financial position of Hongkong which will be created as the result of the action dictated by the Governor of Hongkong by Downing Street, if the instructions, conveyed by telegram, as announced by Reuter, are carried into effect forthwith, led a member of our staff to obtain an interview with the Opium Farmers on the effect of the closing of the dens in Hongkong in relation to the opium monopoly which contributes about a quarter of the total annual gross revenue of the Colony. We exclude at the moment the consideration of the larger question of a trade which is worth, in round figures, no less than thirty million dollars per annum apart from the side turnovers.

The Opium Farmer himself is a gentleman unacquainted with the English language, and our representative was accordingly referred to his secretary, Mr. Chan Kai Ming, whose thorough knowledge of the English colloquial, made the conversation most interesting and instructive.

"Have you received any communication from Government respecting the closing of the divans in Hongkong?" was the first of a series of questions which Mr. Chan was kindly asked to answer.

He replied: "No, unreservedly."

"How about your agreement with Government?"

"As you know it is one for three years. We were awarded the farm on the 1st March, 1907. Consequently, the agreement has twenty-two months more to run."

"You consider the closing of the divans a breach of the agreement?"

"Yes, we do."

"And you will seek redress from the Government?"

"Yes. If the smoking shops are closed, it will affect the farm very much. You ask to what extent, I should say about two-thirds of our aggregate business."

"And you pay for the privilege of conducting that business?"

"\$12,000 a month."

Continuing, Mr. Chan Kai Ming informed our representative that the closing does not involve the Opium Farmers alone. The Government had to consider the position of the divan keepers. There are altogether about two hundred opium shops in the Colony. They are divided into first and second classes. The speaker proceeded to explain that the establishment of each class, in the case of the first class, an initial outlay of \$600 for furniture and fixtures; and in the other class half that amount. That was to say that the daily takings in each of those establishments were not taken into consideration.

"Can you kindly inform us what is the daily quantity of prepared opium consumed in the public divans?"

"I rather not go into details haphazardly," remarked the Secretary. "It is safe for you to say, 'a large quantity.' The opium is put up in little boxes of 41 candareens and 7 cans, each, respectively."

Asked if he had any other observations to offer on the effect of the Home instructions to the local Government as bearing on the Opium Monopoly, Mr. Chan Kai Ming proceeded to state, that it was a most serious question to the Colony in its economic aspect. A monthly deficit of \$121,000 in the revenue was not to be made up by a stroke of the pen. As for increased taxation to make up the revenue from opium, he feared that would tend to further increase the already high cost of living in the Colony. Then there was also that to consider. What would become of the whole host of divan-keepers? With their trade gone they could find no employment in the Colony. It would mean their departure for Canton. Rents of flats occupied by the divans would also go down. They would tell on the disaffected landlords who were already groaning under the exactions of the Health Ordinance.

"As for our own business, why, when I mentioned the two-thirds loss a little while ago I did not take into account the fact of the apprehension on the part of private smokers. Sales to them will also be curtailed. They see in the closing of the public divans the anticipation of their turn to surrender the pipe willy-nilly. Consequently, even though against their personal inclinations, they will feel compelled to reduce their opium."

"Which means that your claim for compensation by Government becomes all the greater?"

"Certainly," was the deliberate reply.

"Can you give an idea as to the approximate amount of the compensation you will endeavour to obtain?"

The Chinese gentleman smiled good humouredly. And in that smile our representative observed the true import of its meaning.

BONFIRE OF OPIUM PIPES.

THE OPENING SCENE.

With reference to our special telegram of 4th inst., the following detailed account of the bonfire at Shanghai will be read with interest. It is taken from the *N. C. D. News* of the 4th inst.—The much-advertised immolation of opium utensils took place at Chang-Su-ho's Garden yesterday afternoon, and had it not been for the obvious earnestness of many of the native spectators the proceedings might have been mistaken for a farce. The roof, balcony and verandah of the main hall were studded with spectators, while a thousand or so more were scattered round the site of the coming bonfire and on various points of vantage in the grounds. At 4 p.m., the hour appointed for the bonfire, arrangements had not been completed, and several tables of opium smoking utensils still remained unburned. A couple of coolies were engaged

in stripping the pipes of their metal work, while others were splitting up the small metal boxes used for holding the drug, by means of a hammer and chisel. Yet another man, armed with a sledge hammer, was shewing his prowess on the delicately-fashomed brass lamps. Some of the ivory pipes were sawn up into small pieces; but those intended for the bonfire, which were mostly made of wood, were dipped in a kerosene can and then stacked in two square heaps on a couple of large stones. On one of the tables were two small trays, each containing a complete opium smoking outfit. A written sheet of paper accompanying them, stated that they were the offerings of Mr. Lien Yue-ming, manager of the East Asiatic Dispensary, and Kua Kuei-yan, a singing girl, respectively. Both these quondam opium-smokers sent in their apparatus to be burnt with a pledge that henceforward they would abstain from using the drug. To add to the animation of the scene that has been described, a native gentleman, with a reckless disregard for the spectators' headgear, was letting off bombs at intervals, and as the fragments hurtled through the air and landed on the heads of the crowd there was great amusement among the more fortunate onlookers.

SPEECHES.

The work of destruction being almost completed, Mr. Sun Ching-foong delivered what appeared to be a very powerful exhortation, from an improvised platform in front of the hall. Mr. Sun is Messrs. Siemens & Co.'s comodore, and his comments on the afternoon's entertainment were received with loud manifestations of approval.

But an even greater impression appeared to be made by Mr. Wong Chin-foo, who spoke at some length, and whose remarks were afterwards interpreted by Mr. A. M. A. Evans. This speaker stated that the Committee of the Commercial Bazaar, which had purchased the contents of the Nau Zun-sir Opium-palace, were determined to assist their countrymen in stamping out the opium curse. He was sufficiently familiar with history to be able to refute the common impression that opium was introduced into China by the foreigner; it was consumed by the Chinese three hundred years before the foreigners arrived. The Committee learnt with great pleasure of the desire of the Municipal Council to endeavour to do away entirely with opium, and he felt sure that in such a commendable enterprise the foreign community would co-operate whole-heartedly with the Chinese. He referred to the example of Mr. Lien Yue-ming, who had been an opium smoker for twenty-five years, but who had now realized the harmful effects of the drug, and had brought his pipes and paraphernalia to be destroyed. The Opium Palace from which came the pipes that were to be destroyed that afternoon was said to be the largest in China, and news of the bonfire would be noised about throughout the land. It had originally been the intention of the Committee to burn the chairs and tables of the Palace at this bonfire, but it would have made too big and too dangerous a fire, and, therefore, they would be sold, and the proceeds devoted to the furtherance of the anti-opium movement. For some of the pipes that were about to be burnt, \$500 had been offered, but the Committee had declined to sell them.

His Excellency desires me to express to you his great grief at the terrible nature of the disaster and his profound sympathy for the relatives of those who have perished. Believe me, Yours very sincerely,

Loss of the "Matsu-shima."

THE GOVERNOR'S SYMPATHY.

ALLIES IN MISFORTUNE.

We have received, for publication, the following correspondence that has passed between His Excellency the Governor and the Japanese Consul, relative to the sinking of the *Matsu-shima*. The telegram, on this subject, from the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs has already appeared in our columns, and it is now given in full in order to complete the context:

Letter, dated 2nd May, from His Excellency the Governor to Mr. S. Mashiko:

Dear Sir,—I write to express to you my great regret at the news which I have seen in the papers of the loss of the cruiser *Matsu-shima* which was so recently a visitor to the Port, when I had the opportunity of meeting her gallant officers.

Our British Navy has also lately had several serious losses, so that we are allies in misfortune.

I earnestly hope that when we receive fuller news we may hear that there has been no great loss of life. Yours very truly,

(Sd.) F. D. LUGARD.

Letter, dated 2nd May, from the Japanese Consul to His Excellency the Governor:

Your Excellency,—I beg to tender my sincere thanks for your kindness in sending Capt. Taylor to this Consulate to express Your Excellency's sympathy on the accident to the cruiser *Matsu-shima*.

The work of destruction being almost completed, Mr. Sun Ching-foong delivered what appeared to be a very powerful exhortation, from an improvised platform in front of the hall. Mr. Sun is Messrs. Siemens & Co.'s comodore, and his comments on the afternoon's entertainment were received with loud manifestations of approval.

But an even greater impression appeared to be made by Mr. Wong Chin-foo, who spoke at some length, and whose remarks were afterwards interpreted by Mr. A. M. A. Evans. This speaker stated that the Committee of the Commercial Bazaar, which had purchased the contents of the Nau Zun-sir Opium-palace, were determined to assist their countrymen in stamping out the opium curse. He was sufficiently familiar with history to be able to refute the common impression that opium was introduced into China by the foreigner; it was consumed by the Chinese three hundred years before the foreigners arrived. The Committee learnt with great pleasure of the desire of the Municipal Council to do away entirely with opium, and he felt sure that in such a commendable enterprise the foreign community would co-operate whole-heartedly with the Chinese. He referred to the example of Mr. Lien Yue-ming, who had been an opium smoker for twenty-five years, but who had now realized the harmful effects of the drug, and had brought his pipes and paraphernalia to be destroyed. The Opium Palace from which came the pipes that were to be destroyed that afternoon was said to be the largest in China, and news of the bonfire would be noised about throughout the land. It had originally been the intention of the Committee to burn the chairs and tables of the Palace at this bonfire, but it would have made too big and too dangerous a fire, and, therefore, they would be sold, and the proceeds devoted to the furtherance of the anti-opium movement. For some of the pipes that were about to be burnt, \$500 had been offered, but the Committee had declined to sell them.

His Excellency desires me to express to you my great grief at the terrible nature of the disaster and his profound sympathy for the relatives of those who have perished. Believe me, Yours very sincerely,

(Sd.) P. H. MITCHELL-TAYLOR.

SMOKING CONCERT.

A very enjoyable smoking concert was held last evening at the Kowloon Catholic Club, when those present listened to an impromptu but well-appreciated programme. The concert was got up to inaugurate the formation of the Kowloon Catholic Club, which owes its origin to the efforts of the Rev. Fr. G. M. Spada and a few members of the community in Kowloon. The little hall was tastefully decorated for the occasion, which was honoured by the presence of the Right Rev. Bishop D. Pozzani, who remained for a considerable time, an interested and amused listener. Mr. J. J. Leiria, Vice-Consul for Portugal, was also present. The secretary, Mr. Walter J. Emms, opened the proceedings by explaining the object of the concert, which was to introduce the newly-formed Club to the members of the Catholic community in Kowloon. Among those who contributed to the merriment of the evening was Mr. Fairburn, whose songs, "Father O'Flynn" and the "Admiral Bromm" were part of the evening's success. Mr. F. Silva most pleasantly rendered "Sea Girl Land of my Home" and also gave solo and piano-forte solos. The comic element was supplied by Messrs. Gates and Hutchison. Among the songs by the former were "My Diary," "Terence's Farewell to Kathleen," "My Irish Molly O," and a parody on "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you." Mr. Hutchison's "Two little girls in blue" and a drinking song were most comic, and caused no end of merriment and laughter. Mr. Emms also took part and among his many contributions was "The Diver." Mr. Lei Ito's recitation of "Oantar Do Mea Padre" (The Best Man's Dinner) was extremely amusing. Mr. M. S. Guimaraes' recitation of Longfellow's immortal poem and the "Beggar's Lament" were appreciated. Altogether, a very enjoyable evening was spent, and a varied and excellent programme was presented to the audience, many of whom seemed to regret the termination of the concert. At the conclusion of the concert, Mr. Emms proposed the health of the President, the Rev. Fr. G. M. Spada, who briefly but heartily responded. We wish the newly-formed Club every success.

At the meeting of the Sanitary Board on Tuesday next, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, pursuant to notice, will ask—

(a.) What is the number of houses in Victoria and Kowloon, which remain to be dealt with under sub sections Nos. 1 and 2 of section 175 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance?

(b.) Is it a fact that notwithstanding your statement that all Government buildings are periodically inspected by Sanitary Department officers, all Government buildings which have a medical office attached, there is no such inspection?

(c.) If not, is it the duty of the Medical Officer so attached to make periodical inspection of such buildings to see that they are in such a sanitary condition as not to contravene the provisions of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance?

(d.) Will you lay on the table a list of such Government buildings as have a medical office attached?

THE DUTY OF INSPECTION.

At the meeting of the Sanitary Board on Tuesday next, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, pursuant to notice, will ask—

(a.) What is the number of houses in Victoria and Kowloon, which remain to be dealt with under sub sections Nos. 1 and 2 of section 175 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance?

(b.) Is it a fact that notwithstanding your statement that all Government buildings are periodically inspected by Sanitary Department officers, all Government buildings which have a medical office attached, there is no such inspection?

(c.) If not, is it the duty of the Medical Officer so attached to make periodical inspection of such buildings to see that they are in such a sanitary condition as not to contravene the provisions of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance?

(d.) Will you lay on the table a list of such Government buildings as have a medical office attached?

THE OPENING SCENE.

With reference to our special telegram of 4th inst., the following detailed account of the bonfire at Shanghai will be read with interest. It is taken from the *N. C. D. News* of the 4th inst.—The much-advertised immolation of opium utensils took place at Chang-Su-ho's Garden yesterday afternoon, and had it not been for the obvious earnestness of many of the native spectators the proceedings might have been mistaken for a farce. The roof, balcony and verandah of the main hall were studded with spectators, while a thousand or so more were scattered round the site of the coming bonfire and on various points of vantage in the grounds. At 4 p.m., the hour appointed for the bonfire, arrangements had not been completed, and several tables of opium smoking utensils still remained unburned. A couple of coolies were engaged

THE 1/4/08 BOYCOTT.

JAPANESE RESIDENT.

Police Officer Bell, of No. 2 Police Station, arrested a Japanese in Queen's Road East last night on a charge of disorderly behaviour. The Japanese, who gave his name as John Sato, a photographer, appeared in the Police Court to-day, to answer the charge. From the evidence that was adduced at the trial, it would seem that Sato engaged a ricksha to return home. When he arrived at his destination he refused to pay the coolie on the ground that his companions were boycotting Japanese goods. The coolie insisted on having what was due to him, whereupon the Japanese is alleged to have seized him by the queue, flung him to the ground, and pummelled him. Police Officer Bell at this stage intervened and placed the Sato in custody. Seizing his opportunity the ricksha coolie got to his feet and disappeared. The Jap was convicted and fined \$1.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to 20th inst., both days inclusive.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON, General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th May, 1908. (493)

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions

from Messrs. Butterfield & Swire,

to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION.

on

THURSDAY,

the 16th May, 1908, at 11 A.M., at Messrs.

Butterfield & Swire's Godown, West Point,

A QUANTITY OF

IRON WHEELS, WIRE and MANILA

TERMS—A small sum.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 9th May, 1908. (494)

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

RAILWAY CO'S SECOND CALL.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 8th May.

On the representation of the Japanese consul at Canton, the Viceroy has instructed the Canton Chamber of Commerce to exhort the Chinese stationers not to manufacture any more envelopes on which are printed the characters "Memorial of National Disgrace." The district magistrates of Namhoi and Panyu have also been instructed to put a stop to the sale of such envelopes which are objected to.

CHINESE GOVERNMENT'S UNEASINESS.

In consequence of the energetic efforts of

the Cantonese in carrying on the boycott

against Japanese in South China, the Chinese

Government views the situation with much

uneasiness, writes the Peking correspondent of the *N. C. D. News* on 26th ult. It is said that the Japanese exporters are becoming seriously

concerned also. The Waiwupu suggests that

Prince Tai Chen, son of Prince Ching and

late President of the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, and Governor Taog Shao-yi, should be sent to

Canton to persuade the boycotters to desist.

Japan has voluntarily offered to accept the

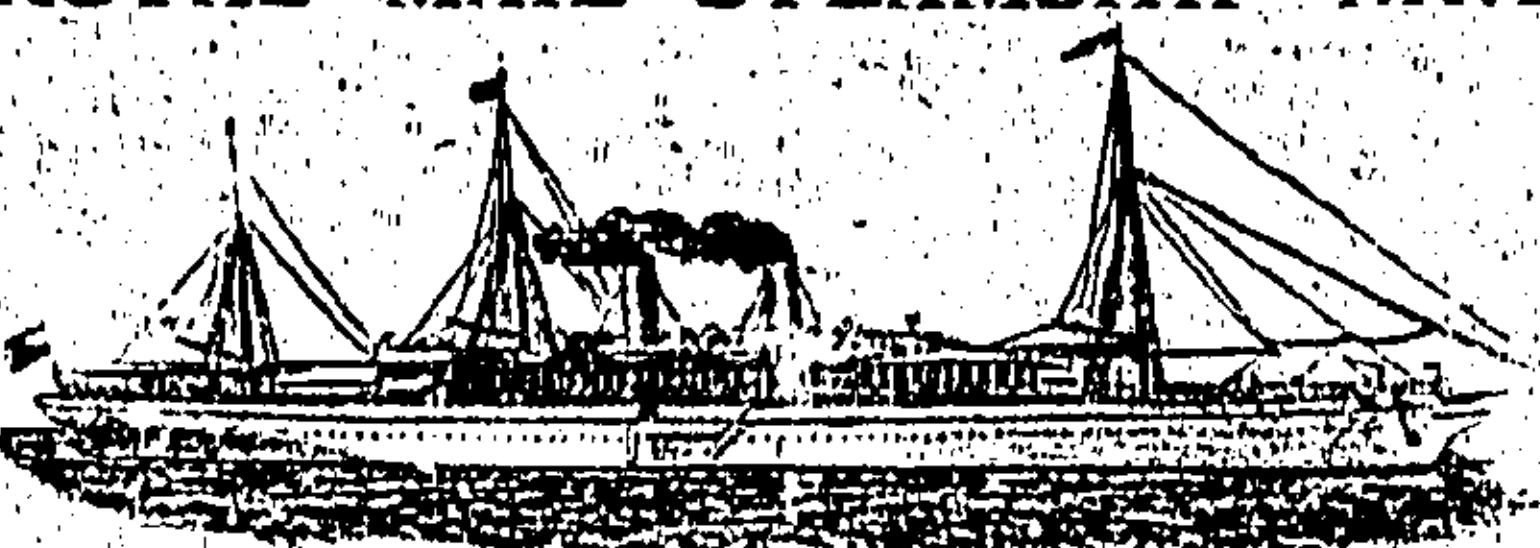
friendly advice of Sir John Jordan to exercise

greater vigilance where the question of arms

running by Japanese subjects is concerned,

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.



Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that Maintains a Regular Schedule Service of under Eleven Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 5 to 10 Days' Ocean Travel.

11 Days YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER. 18 Days HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER.

PROPOSED SAILINGS.

(Subject to Alteration).

R.M.S. Tons LEAVE HONGKONG ARRIVE VANCOUVER
 "GLENFARG" 3,700... WEDNESDAY, May 20th... June 18th
 "EMPEROR OF CHINA" 6,000... THURSDAY, June 4th... June 22nd
 "EMPEROR OF INDIA" 6,000... SATURDAY, June 13th... July 1st
 "LEONNOX" 3,700... THURSDAY, June 18th... July 17th
 "EMPEROR OF JAPAN" 6,000... SATURDAY, July 4th... July 25th
 "MONTEAGLE" 6,163... SATURDAY, July 11th... Aug. 4th
 S.S. "LEONNOX" and "GLENFARG" are Freighters only and do not carry Passengers.
 "EMPEROR" steamships depart from Hongkong at 4 P.M., S.S. "MONTEAGLE," "LEONNOX" and "GLENFARG" at 12 Noon.

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES and EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, and VIATORIA, B.C., and at QUEBEC, with the Company's New Palatial "EMPEROR" Steamships, 14,500 tons register. The through transit to LIVERPOOL being 22 days, from YOKOHAMA, and 20 days from HONGKONG.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class. *via* St. Lawrence River Lines or New York £71.00. Hongkong to London, Intermediate on Steamers, and 1st Class on Railways. *via* St. Lawrence £40. *via* New York £42.

First-class rates include cost of Meals and Berth in Sleeping Car while crossing the American Continent.

R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE" carries "Intermediate" Passengers only, at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class.

Passengers Booked through to all points and AROUND THE WORLD.

SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China, and Japan Governments.

For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to D. W. GRADDOCK, General Traffic Agent for China, Hongkong, 5th May, 1908.

Cornhill, Pudding Street and Praya.

15

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION)

For Steamship On

TIENTSIN... CHIUSHING*... MONDAY, 15th May, Noon.
 SHANGHAI VIA SWATOW... HAA GSANGI... MONDAY, 15th May, Noon.
 SANDAKAN... MAUSANGI... TUESDAY, 16th May, daylight.
 SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA, KUMHSANG... TUESDAY, 16th May, 3 P.M.
 MANILA... YUNHSANG*... FRIDAY, 19th May, 4 P.M.
 SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE... EOKOHSANG*... FRIDAY, 22nd May, 4 P.M.
 & MOJI... EOKOHSANG*... FRIDAY, 27th May, Noon.

RETURN TOURS TO JAPAN.

OCCUPYING 24 DAYS.

The steamers *Kutsang*, *Nansang* and *Fo Keng* leave about every 3 weeks for Shanghai and Yokohama returning via Kobe (Inland Sea) and Moji to Hongkong, providing a stay of 5 to 6 days in Japan if passengers leave the steamer at Yokohama and rejoin at Kobe.

These vessels have all modern improvements and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

A duly qualified surgeon is also carried.

Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Yangtze Ports, Chefoo, Tientsin & Newchwang.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Kuching, Labuan, Dato, Simporna, Tawau, Usukau, Jesselton and Lubau.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.,

General Managers.

Telephone No. 61.

Hongkong, 9th May, 1908.

16

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

FOR

STEAMERS TO SAIL

AMOY & SHANGHAI... KASHING... 10th May, 9 A.M.
 NINGPO & SHANGHAI... FOOCHOW... 11th " 4 P.M.
 MANILA, ZAMBOANGA & AUSTRALIA... CHINGTO... 12th " 9 A.M.
 HOIHOW & HAIPHONG... SINGAN... 12th " 9 A.M.
 MANILA... TAMING... 12th " 4 P.M.
 TSINGTAU, CHEFOO & NEWCHWANG... KWELIANG... 14th " 9 A.M.
 CHEFOO & TIENTSIN... KUEICHOW... 19th " "
 YOKOHAMA & KOBE... TSINAN... 23rd " "

MANILA and TIENTSIN STEAMERS have superior Passenger accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms and Dining Saloon.

AUSTRALIAN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried. Cargo booked through for all Australian, New Zealand and Tasmanian Ports.

SHANGHAI STEAMERS have good Saloon Passenger accommodation and take cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

Reduced Saloon Fares, Single and Return, to Manila and Australia.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS.

Hongkong, 8th May, 1908.

13

HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewardess carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
ZAFIRO	3,540	R. Rodger	MANILA	SATURDAY, 16th May, at Noon.
RUBI	3,540	Almond	"	SATURDAY, 23rd May, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to SHEWAN TOME & CO., GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 9th May, 1908.

11

HONGKONG—NEW YORK.

AMERICAN ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO.

FOR NEW YORK.

(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast).

Steamship.

To sail

"LOWTHER CASTLE".... On or about the 31st May, 1908.

For Freight and further information, apply to

SHEWAN TOME & CO.

General Agents.

Hongkong, 8th April, 1908.

14

Shipping—Steamers.

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA (Floro and Rubattino United Companies).

STEAM FOR HOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG

Having connection with Company's Mail Steamers to PORT SAID, MESSINA, NAPLES, LEGHORN and GENOA, also VENICE and TRIESTE, all MEDITERRANEAN, ADRIATIC, LEVANTINE and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS up to CALLAO. (Taking Cargo at through Routes to PERSIAN GULF and BAGDAD, also BARCELONA, VALENCIA, ALICANTE, ALMERIA and MALAGA.)

THE Steamship

"CAPRI."

Captain Bedone, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 11th instant, at Noon.

For further Particulars regarding Freight and Passage, apply to

CARLOWITZ & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 7th May, 1908.

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FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE Steamship

"CLAN MACMILLAN"

will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, 12th May, 1908.

For Freight, apply to

SHEWAN, TOME & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 8th May, 1908.

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REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE

TO NEW YORK,

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL, (With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR BOSTON AND NEW YORK:

S.S. "SATSUMA" ... 14th May, 1908

For Freight and further information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED, Agents.

Hongkong, 29th April, 1908.

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NORTHERN PACIFIC LINE.

BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Connecting at Tacoma with

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR VICTORIA, B.C., AND TAUOMA,

VIA MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamer Tons Captain Sailing.

Kumeric	6,222	Cowley	1908.
Shasumul	9,660	E. V. Roberts	16th May.
Tremento	9,660	W. T. Gartick	6th June.
Swaric	6,322	Shantong	14th July.

CHEAP FARES, EXCELLENT ACCOMMODATION, ATTENDANCE AND CUISINE, ELECTRIC LIGHT, DOCTOR AND STEWARDESS.

The twin-screw s.s. *Shasumul* and *Tremento* are fitted with very superior accommodation for first and second class passengers. The large size of these vessels ensure steadiness at sea. Electric fan in each room. Barber's shop and steam-laundry. Cargo carried in cold storage.

PARCEL EXPRESS TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

For further information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED, General Agents.

Queen's Buildings, 10th May, 1908.

[9-10]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, (Calling at Timor, Port Darwin, and Queensland Ports, and taking through Cargo to Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship

"EASTERN."

Captain McArthur, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 28th inst., at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

The Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 4th May, 1908.

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STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

"KWONG TUNG" ... Capt. H. W. WALKER.

"KWONG SAI" ... Capt. E. S. CROWE.

Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every evening. (Sunday excepted.)

Leave Canton for Hongkong at 5.30 every evening. (Sunday excepted.)

These Fine New Steamers have unexcelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and are lit throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans in First Class Cabins.

Passage Fare—Single Journey ... 54.

Meals 5.50 each

The Company's Wharf is situated in front of the New Western Market, opposite the old Harbour Office.

YUEN ON S.S. CO., LTD.

and SHUJ ON S.S. CO., LTD.

No. 8, Queen's Road West, Hongkong, 2nd July, 1908.

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SHEWAN TOME & CO., General Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd July, 1908.

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SHEWAN TOME & CO., General Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd July, 1908.

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SHEWAN TOME & CO., General Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd July, 1908.

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Hongkong, 2nd July, 1908.

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SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOURIE & CO. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 51.

Intimations.

ACHEE & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1859

FURNITURE.

DEPOT

FOR

EASTMAN'S

KODAKS, FILMS,

AND

ACCESSORIES.

Telephone 256.

AMATEUR WORK Receives PROMPT and CAREFUL ATTENTION.

Hongkong, 16th May, 1908.

Don't Worry.

Don't Worry.

WHY WORRY?

CONSULT

PHAROS.

THE MYSTIC AND MODERN ASTROLOGER

YES, WHY WORRY?

About your Business, Health, Pleasures, Friends Abroad, your Love Affairs and Chances in Life.

Yes, Why Worry? Consult Pharos. He is able to advise you, Console you and Warn you. His ambition in this life is to help those in trouble, and must not be classed with the run of Palmists who use their *Supposed Gifts* to make money. Pharos is independent of this. Willing and able to help all in trouble and relieve their anxiety to the best of his ability and experience.

PHAROS HAS A MESSAGE TO YOU.

You are anxious to put your son to a business that will prosper. Will your daughter be happy in her married life? You are in love. Have I made a wise choice in mate? Shall I take a partner into my business? Should I be wise in going abroad? All these questions Pharos can answer and advise by the aid of astrology. Why not put this to the test. Send P. O. Value 1/- and addressed, stamped envelope to—

PHAROS, DEPT. 14, 45 UNION STREET, GLASGOW

with your Birth Date, Full Name and Title and Town or County of Birth—if possible, upon receipt of same Pharos will send you a written Test Horoscope.

With the above Pharos will send you FREE A WRITTEN FORECAST OF YOUR FUTURE.

PICTORIAL POSTCARDS.

100 ASSORTED Scotch, English & Irish Views, etc. for 1/-.

1,000 " " " " " Actresses, Songs, Animals, Lovers

and Comic Cards for 1/-.

English and Continental Actresses hand tinted real glossy Photographs 1/- per gross.

CHRISTMAS & NEW-YEAR CARDS well ASSORTED parcel.

100 Cards for 5/- Value 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d and 6d each.

100 ASSORTED Cards for 10/-

1 gross Jewelled Cards for 9/-

Foreign or Colonial Stamps not accepted. Kindly send Money Order.

31 BRITANIA POSTCARD CO., 45, Union Street, Glasgow.

EYES

RIGHT!

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,
CORNER OF D'AGUILAR STREET AND QUEEN'S ROAD.

WILL test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.

Ask, or write, for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight,"—free.

LONDON, CALCUTTA, SHANGHAI,
22, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C. 59, Bentinck Street, 566, Nanking Road,
Hongkong. 4th March 1908.O. C. MOOSA,
1 & 3, D'AGUILAR STREET.SWATOW DRAWN WORK
COMPANY,

38, WELLINGTON STREET.

Dealers in all kind of

HAND-MADE DRAWN CHINESE

LINEN, GRASS CLOTH, &c.

all of the best quality;

ALSO

SWATOW BEST PEWTER-WARE.

CANTON EMBROIDERY and CHINESE

LACES,

all from the best French patterns.

HONGKONG AND SWATOW.

Hongkong, 10th October, 1907.

AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORITY of the ITALIAN
CONVENT, CANE ROAD, beg most
respectfully to APPEAL to the Residents ofHongkong and the Coast Ports for their kind
patronage and support, and desire to state
that she will be pleased to receive orders for

all kinds of NEEDLE WORK.

Gebelino's Shirts made to order. All Linen
and Collars renewed on old ones.Ladies and Children's Underwear, Children's
Dresses, and all kinds of embroidery.

Materials can be supplied, if required.

The Superiority will also be glad to receive
any PAPER, or old ENVELOPES to be made
into Books for the Children of the Public Schools,

who are taught by the Superiority.

Hongkong, 10th October, 1907.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

ESTABLISHED 1841

NEW SERIES No. 5764

四月廿九日

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1908.

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BIRTHS.

On April 18, 1908, at Hankow, the wife of E. H. FISHER, Esq., c. m. o., of a daughter.

On April 20, 1908, at Mollacombe, Thurstone, South Devon, the wife of H. E. CAMPBELL, of a son.

On May 1, 1908, at Shanghai, the wife of J. H. HINTON, a son.

JOHNSTON.—On 4th May, 1908, at Tyreia Rectory, Co. Down, the wife of L. A. M. JOHNSTON, of a daughter (stillborn).

On April 19, 1908, at Canton, Rev. JOHN W. VINTON, of Sichuan, North Kiangsu, and JEANNIE ROSE FOREST, youngest daughter of the late Rev. K. D. JUNKIN, D. D., of Houston, Texas.

On May 1, 1908, at Shanghai, DOROTHY WIDLER, (daughter of late David Widler) to W. & ROBERTS, No. Card.

MARRIAGES.

On April 6, 1908, at Cape Town, WILLIAM WRIGHT, of the Prentiss (Transvaal), Diamond Mines, Cullinan, Pretoria District, S. Africa, and formerly of Shanghai, to his 45th year.

On April 6, 1908, on board a Yacht, between Peking and Madras, GERMARD HUBER, 25, son of Michael Mr. H. Willkomm, of Shanghai, from 1902, a German, having at sea.

On April 15, 1908, at Tai Yuen Fu, Shantou, Mrs. ANNA TURNER, wife of the Rev. J. J. TURNER, of the Foreign Baptist Mission.

On April 19, 1908, at Shanghai, of the Foreign Telephone Office, aged 84.

On April 20, 1908, at Shanghai, daughter of Alastair MACINTOSH, 24, and his wife, aged 24.

On April 20, 1908, at Macao, aged 4 years, and as

daughter of James WILLIAMS, 24, of the Kowloon Hotel, the 4th

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nations of Europe. China invited our battle-ship fleet to visit there to impress the Japanese with the friendship between the United States and China. Japan has evidently succeeded in causing a change of plans. It can hardly injure America either way."

Telegrams.

HONGKONG TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

THE ANHÜI RIOT.

MAGISTRATE MISSING.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Shanghai, 1st May. The magistrate of Ying-shan city, where an anti-Christian riot took place, is missing.

A SHIPPING CONFERENCE.

RUSSIA'S PROPOSAL.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 1st May. Russia proposed to hold an international Shipping Conference.

The Waiwupu has telegraphed to the Chinese Minister at St. Petersburg to send a delegate to attend the Conference on behalf of China.

All expenses of the Chinese representatives will be borne by the Ministry of Posts and Communications.

JAPANESE MINISTER AT PEKING.

A FAREWELL AUDIENCE.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 1st May. The Japanese Minister in Peking held farewell audiences of the Emperor and Empress Dowager on the 1st inst.

CHINA'S POSTAL RIGHTS.

ALLEGED RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 1st May. In consequence of Russia's interference with the Postal rights of China in Mongolia, the Waiwupu and the Ministry of Posts and Communications have made strong representations to the Russian Minister in Peking.

SIR ROBERT HART.

HEARTY SEND-OFF FROM SHANGHAI.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 2nd May, 11 a.m. Sir Robert Hart embarked on board the German mail steamer York, at noon yesterday, for Hongkong.

Sir Robert was accorded an enthusiastic send-off.

CHINA'S NAVY.

THE REORGANISATION SCHEME.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 3rd May. The Government has telegraphed to the Chinese residing in Malaya and Australia on the subject of the proposed re-organisation of the Navy.

THE PRESS LAW.

ENFORCEMENT AT PEKING.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 3rd May. On the 1st inst. the editors of the Chinese newspapers in Peking were notified that the Press laws would be brought into operation forthwith, and were advised to provide the guarantee money under the new regulations.

RETIROMENT.

EMPEROR DOWAGER'S INSTRUCTIONS.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 3rd May. The other day the Empress Dowager issued instructions to the Superintendent of the Imperial Household to curtail all expenditure.

BONFIRE OF OPIUM UTENSILS.

PUBLIC CEREMONY IN SHANGHAI.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 4th May, 2.55 p.m. Yesterday afternoon, a vast number of opium utensils which had been

taken from a large opium-shop in the French Concession were heaped together, in the Commercial Bazaar, in a bonfire and publicly consigned to the flames.

The incident aroused the utmost interest among the large gathering of natives who had assembled to witness the holocaust.

CHINA AND SIAM.

DRAFT COMMERCIAL TREATY.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 4th May. H.E. Yuan Shih-kai has requested H.E. Tang Shao-ji to prepare a draft of Commercial Treaty with Siam.

THE YIANG-SHAN RIOTS.

MAGISTRATE ASSASSINATED.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 4th May. It is reported that the Magistrate of Yang-shan, Anhui province, where the recent riots took place, has been assassinated by the rioters.

CHINESE NATIONAL BANK.

ENCOURAGING NOTES CIRCULATION.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 4th May. It is proposed by the Board of Revenue that, in future, the salaries of officials and soldiers be paid in notes of the Chinese National Bank.

PARLIAMENT FOR CHINA.

PEOPLE TO BE EDUCATED.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 4th May. Yesterday a meeting of the Grand Council was held to discuss the question of a Parliament for China.

It was decided to postpone consideration of the question for three years on the ground that the people are not yet sufficiently educated to an appreciation of Constitutional Government.

THE EMPEROR'S ILLNESS.

UNABLE TO ATTEND CEREMONIALS.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 4th May. The Emperor has not yet recovered from his recent illness.

His Majesty has instructed His Highness Prince Chun to act for him on the occasion of the sacrificial worship on the 10th inst.

THE JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

ADMIRAL LI CHUN BLAMED.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 4th May. The Japanese Minister in Peking has made a representation to the Waiwupu in which he attaches blame to Admiral Li Chun for instigating the boycott of the Japanese for his own alleged private ends.

NINING CONCESSION IN HUNAN.

MUST NOT BE ALIENATED.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 5th May. Upon learning that the gentry of Yunnan have sold some mines to certain French subjects, the Board of Commerce and Agriculture forthwith instructed the officials of that Province to investigate the matter with a view of preserving the mines to the Chinese.

AN APPOINTMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 5th May. An Imperial edict has been issued directing Taotai Wan Tsung-ku to serve under H.E. Chiu I-fung.

THE S.S. "TAI SOU MARU."

COST OF REPAIRS.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Shanghai, 6th May. It is reported that the cost of the repairs to the s.s. Tai Sou Maru No. 2, at Nagasaki, will amount to about fifty thousand dollars.

CHINRSE TELEGRAPH CO.

NATIONALIZING THE TELEGRAPH.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 6th May. The Ministry of Posts and Communications has decided to call in the shares held by the people in the Chinese Telegraph Co. Shareholders are required, before the ninth moon, to surrender their share certificates at the office of the Chinese National Bank, either at Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, Hankow, or Canton.

The cause of the fire seems to be considered a mystery, as the house was not occupied at the time and was in charge of a Frenchman, who resides in a wing on the ground floor, while the games were first discovered burning from an silk window on the Faig river side of the house. The building was estimated to be worth 10,000 and the damage will reach close to 10,000 which is fully covered by insurance.

The surrender value of every \$100 share will be \$10.

Those shareholders who may not have surrendered their share by the ninth moon will be compelled to part with them.

CHINESE NATIONAL BANK.

THE NOTE ISSUE GUARANTEED.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Shanghai, 6th May. Yesterday, Thotai Choy Shiu sent a communication to the foreign Consuls stating that the Board of Revenue will guarantee the note issue of the Chinese National Bank.

The despatch requested the Consular Body to notify the foreign merchants with a view to their accepting these notes.

ANTI-OPIUM CAMPAIGN.

DRASTIC REGULATIONS FOR THE ARMY.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 7th May. H.E. Tit Liang, president of the Ministry of War, has drawn up a set of anti-opium regulations for the Army.

One of these regulations provides that any soldier found guilty of opium smoking shall be punishable by death.

VICEROY CHANG'S TOUR.

KWEILIN NOT VISITED.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 7th May. A telegraphic despatch has been received from H.E. Chang Jen-chun, of Canton, in which His Excellency states that, after a tour of inspection on the East, West, and North Rivers, he returned to Canton without visiting Kweilin, the capital of Kwangtung.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

DISCUSSION POSTPONED.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

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THE EMPEROR'S ILLNESS.

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INLAND NAVIGATION.

FRENCH REQUEST REFUSED.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 7th May. The French Minister at Peking has preferred a request to the Waiwupu for permission to run steamers to a place called Chink-chow, in Kwangtung.

The Waiwupu strenuously opposes the granting of the request.

VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS ROBBED.

CLEVER CAPTURE BY A POLICEMAN.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 7th May. While Policeman Glaendring was patrolling his beat last evening in Queen's Road East he discovered a Chinaman making suspicious movements, which aroused his suspicion. The policeman got into a doorway and watched the Chinaman who, unfortunately for himself, came too near the doorway in which the policeman was concealed, was apprehended and taken before the Court this morning. Apparently he was a most aristocratic gentleman as he wore a pair of silk pyjamas under his usual attire and also had in his possession other odds and ends which other people claimed.

At the Magistracy, to-day, he was charged with stealing \$15 worth of property belonging to Sergeant-Major Higby, and returning to his establishment. A marine store dealer, who resides at Upper Lascar Row, was also arraigned on a charge of receiving stolen property from the first defendant. The coolie was sentenced to four months' hard labour, and the case against the store dealer was discharged.

FIRE IN MANILA.

THE Giralda Building DESTROYED.

[By courtesy of the "Shuang Po."]

Peking, 7th May. San Miguel district was visited by fire last evening, reports the Manila Times of and last, when the Giralda building, formerly used as nurses' quarters, No. 370 Calle General Solano, was almost totally destroyed by fire. The building was at one time the Giralda cigar factory, was later known as the Giralda Hotel, was then used by the St. Louis Expedition Board, and since that time and till recently was used as quarters for nurses employed at the military hospital.

The alarm of fire was turned in from bldg. No. 71 at the corner of Calle General Solano and Ayala at 7.30 p.m. the Tuesday night, when the Giralda building, formerly used as nurses' quarters, No. 370 Calle General Solano, was almost totally destroyed by fire.

The building, although for a time a mystery, was the Giralda cigar factory, was later known as the Giralda Hotel, was then used by the St. Louis Expedition Board, and since that time and till recently was used as quarters for nurses employed at the military hospital.

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THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LIMITED.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The nineteenth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd., was held at the company's offices, St. George's Building, at noon last Saturday for the purpose of presenting the report of the directors, together with a statement of accounts to 29th February, 1908, and electing directors and auditors. Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar (chairman of directors) presided. There were also present: Sir Paul Chater and Mr. E. G. Barrett (directors), Mr. F. G. Graham (acting manager), Dr. J. W. Noble, Messrs. W. A. Dowley, J. Owen Hughes, Thomas Skinner, G. J. B. Sayer, J. F. Wright, A. H. M. Silva, R. R. Roberts, L. E. Osgood, and O. Baptista.

After reading the notice calling the meeting, the Chairman said: "Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for some time I propose with your permission to take them as read. The directors are pleased to come before you with what appears to them, as I feel sure it will to you, such a satisfactory report of the year's working. It shows a further expansion in the Company's operations, our services now equaling upwards of 47,000 lamps of 3 candle power, 85 arc lamps and 24 lights against 44,500 lamps, 85 arc lamps and 20 lights at the date of our last report, and with the reduction made in cost of current supplied as from 1st March of this year we have good grounds for looking for a further extension of our operations. Our plant account shows a considerable increase mainly due to payment for the two Diesel alternators sets of 300 h.p. each. These are just about completed and we trust to have them working during this month. Land and building account also, shows a considerable increase due in a large measure to renewals and alterations preparatory to putting in the Diesel engines. Our stock of installation material, coal and stores stand at almost the same amount as last year. Sundry debts show an increase over last year, but, since closing the accounts, half of that amount has been collected. The balance of profit and loss account amounts to \$159,637.13 and after deducting \$3,000.00 for directors' fees a sum of \$166,637.13 remains available for appropriation and your directors propose to deal with this as follows:—To pay a dividend of 10 per cent.—say \$1.00 per share on 67,000 shares \$66,000; to pay a bonus of a per cent, say 20 cents per share on 60,000 shares \$12,000; to write off plant account for depreciation \$5,608.60, to write off from land and building account \$13,672.10; to pay a bonus to staff \$3,395; to carry forward to next account \$9,321.43—\$150,637.13. I trust this proposal will meet with your sanction and approval being an increase of 2 per cent. over last year's return to shareholders. The continued writing down of the plant account is essential especially in view of the adoption of Diesel engines by the company for the greater working success of the engines the more necessary it will become to write off and entirely dispose of the steam plant that now forms a large portion of the company's assets. The writing down of the property account is necessary as the station buildings are nearly 20 years old and the money spent on this account during the year has been expended in alterations and renewals rather than on additional buildings. Further expenditure under this head will be necessary and will have to be undertaken whether future extensions of plant are made with oil or steam. I am sure the bonus to the staff which is equal to one month's salary will command itself to you. A substantially larger amount is recommended to be carried forward in order that the shareholders may have confidence in the company's endeavours to maintain a steady and satisfactory dividend and at the same time make due provision for the inevitable depreciation of plant and such like assets. In the Chairman's speech last year he mentioned that it might be necessary at no distant date to increase our capital. The necessity has not arisen during the past year and your Directors are hopeful of being able to finance any increase in plant, etc., which may occur during the present year without having to raise fresh capital.

No questions were asked.

The Chairman moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Dr. Noble:—I rise with pleasure to second the adoption of the report and statement of accounts as presented, and also to congratulate the directors, the agents and the staff for the completion of another satisfactory year's working, which is after all, another among their many successive ones preceding it. (Applause).

The motion was put to the meeting and unanimously carried.

Mr. Owen Hughes moved that the appointment of the Hon. Mr. Henry Keswick, and Messrs. E. G. Barrett and J. W. C. Bonnar be confirmed.

Mr. Dowley seconded.

The motion was passed.

Mr. Sayer moved that Sir Paul Chater and the Hon. Mr. Henry Keswick be re-elected directors.

Mr. da Silva seconded and the motion was adopted.

Mr. Skinner moved the re-appointment of Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and C. W. May as auditors.

Mr. Osgood seconded and the motion was carried.

Mr. Graham, Acting Manager, said: Gentlemen, on behalf of the members of the staff and myself I wish to express our thanks for your generosity in granting us this bonus (applause).

The Chairman: Gentlemen: That is all the business. Thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday. The meeting then ended.

PROPOSED MATCH FACTORY.

HONGKONG CONCERN IN CANTON.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 1st May.

A merchant surnamed Ho, and others, are going to form a company for the manufacture of matches with a capital of \$100,000 in shares of \$1 each; half of the amount has already been promised by the promoters. As the people are so earnest in the promoting of native industries, especially at the present time of the Japanese boycott, the required capital is expected to be fully subscribed in a very short time. The Chinese have long been contending to establish match factories, but they found that local enterprises in that direction would be difficult to compete with the Japanese. Now that Japanese products are being boycotted and the Chinese prefer goods of native manufacture or those imported from foreign countries other than Japan, there may be chances of success to those who can turn out anything that can replace the Japanese article. The Lung Kee Match Company, of Hongkong, a Chinese concern, has recently opened a branch office in Yuen Ching street, and has imported a large quantity of its products into Canton. It is now a few days for the Canton

STORM AT HANKOW.

STEAMERS DAMAGED.

The *Hankow Daily News* of 25th ult. says:—The proverb that "it's an ill wind that blows nobody any good" has any truth in it when yesterday's excellent imitation of a typhoon, combining the qualities of that article with those of a Pelting sand storm and the soft murmurings of a typhoon, must have been very ill indeed.

Shortly before noon dense clouds were to be seen collecting in the east and shortly afterwards a yellow haze heralded the approach of one of the worst "blows" that Hankow has experienced. At one o'clock a gale was raging furiously and in no time pontoons were smashed, cargo boats dashed to bits, and general wreckage strewn along the bund foreshore.

The first accident occurred shortly after 1 p.m. when three junks, laden with stores belonging to some missionaries who were about to proceed up country, were dashed to pieces close to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's lower bulk. The occupants, all Chinese, were saved, a foreigner being prominent in their rescue. By this time all the boats in harbour had got up steam and before three o'clock were putting out from the hulls to deep water. H.M.S. *Thistle* and *Teal* leaving the port altogether, the former heading up the river.

The *Wessex*, which vessel was lying inside Jardine's, Matheson's bulk, did not get off so lightly as she carried away her storm moorings and swung on to the foreshore of the bund. Here she rammed for a time while cargo-boats pounded themselves to pieces all around her; but finally, a sail having been hoisted steadily her, she pulled up to a kedge-anchor which had been thrown out and got out into deep water, the manoeuvre being admirably carried out, admired by many with a knowledge of sea-craft. Meanwhile one of the boats which form Jardine's pontoon lost her anchor and was lifted by a huge wave right on to the "apron" of the bund, the three coolies on board her miraculously escaping through the wreckage unscathed.

Shortly afterwards both Butterfield and Swire's and Geddes & Co.'s pontoons got into difficulties; the former lost one of her stern anchors and commenced to roll at a huge angle; the latter lost her stern cables entirely and swinging round carved a large scissortail out of the bund "apron."

The China Merchants S. N. Co. also fared ill. In getting away from the bulk the s.s. *Wessex* smashed her side badly, and some cargo boats near that vessel containing merchandise to the value of about 40,000 taels were upset by the high waves running and their contents were entirely lost.

Chinese reports state that about 10 cargo boats have been lost but judging from the appearance which the foreshore presented at a late hour last night we regard this as a very low estimate. Not many lives are reported to have been lost though several junks were seen to upset in midstream and their occupants not seen again.

Coolies were busy all afternoon and late into the night reaping a rich harvest of fish and jettison and the back roads were thronged with men carrying poles, planks, firewood and in fact any article that hands could be laid upon.

Some lives are reported to have been lost in this arduous work, and could scarcely be otherwise, for the risks that the men were running for the sake of a few cents was immense.

The *Meldah* was late last evening reported to be one of the worst sufferers, but as a matter of fact she got off comparatively lightly considering the difficulties which she had to encounter. She got away from her bulk safely and was heading away from the shore down river when some wreckage fouled her propeller and rudder, and she drifted down stream until opposite the Standard Oil tanks she managed to drop her anchor; she reported by signals en route that she was in difficulties but immediately the anchorage was found announced to the shore by megaphone that she was safe.

Not only the accident to the British has to be reported but also one to the German bund where immediately opposite Arnold, Karberg's building several feet of structure have been washed away.

As we go to press the storm has abated and a soft rain-fall set in.

The C. M. steamer *Kuangfong*, Captain Carlson, from Hankow, reports that at noon on the 24th ult. at Hankow a fierce gale suddenly came on from the N.E. The sea became so high that all the vessels had to leave the hulls and seek anchorage elsewhere. As far as could be seen from the *Kuangfong* there had been a large loss both of life and property. Many capsized boats and junks were seen floating down river and some derelicts, also raft of poles and bamboo. Along the beach, several craft were lying sunk and broken. The moorings and gangways of the hulls and pontoons were also carried away, stopping all discharging and loading for the time. Sea was so high that the *Kuangfong* was rolling guard under. Towards midnight the gale abated. Previously the weather had been very warm, and the barometer low, but otherwise no warning was given.

CHINA'S NAVY.

THE NEW SCHEME.

The Board of War has decided on a naval scheme for China. The scheme may be divided into two heads.

1. The expenses for constructing warships and for the establishment of naval ports to be raised by the Board of War and the Board of Finance.

2. The annual expenses for the navy should be paid by the provinces along the sea coast and also a portion by the inland provinces.

It is also proposed to divide China's navy into three divisions. The Peiyang Squadron will be called the First Squadron. The Nanyang the Second Squadron (the warships of Hupeh and Chekiang will be added to this Squadron). The Canton Squadron will be called the Third Squadron (with the warships of Fukien added to this). Each Squadron will have one big battleship, one or two first class cruisers, four or five second class cruisers, five or six third class cruisers and also fourth class cruisers, gunboats, transports, despatch vessels, torpedo boat destroyers, and torpedo depot and two torpedo boats stills and one or two submarine boats. Each squadron will be commanded by a Naval Admiral who will cruise and train the squadrons. *Chesoo*, Tientsin, and Taku will be naval ports of the first naval area. *Sampan* Bay, and *Chusan* will be naval ports of the second naval area. *Canton* and *Yulin* will be the naval ports of the third naval area. The main portion of the navy will be the Nanyang Squadron with the vanguard of the Peiyang and rearguard of the Canton Squadron. A naval official of high position will be appointed to take the supreme command of the three Squadrons.

The naval sailors will be appointed by special regulations to be compiled after studying the system of conscription of various foreign countries. The education and training will be as follows for the present. The other measures will be fully decided from time to time. The proposals are placed into the hands of Vice-Admiral and Governor, who will study as to give their views—

CHINESE PUBLIC DISPENSARIES.

SUCCESS OF STREET LECTURES.

In his report for last year the Registrar-General states:—The work of the dispensaries has been steadily carried on during the year, perhaps the figure of one is more familiar than that of Captain William E. Filmer of the Tokyo *Kisen Kaisha* liner *America*. Captain Filmer, during his five years of nautical life, has gone through experiences of every kind, many of them of an exciting, and most, if not all, of an interesting nature.

Of all the commanders of the great passenger and trading liners which come into San Francisco bay from all quarters of the globe perhaps the figure of one is more familiar than that of Captain William E. Filmer of the Tokyo *Kisen Kaisha* liner *America*. Captain Filmer, during his five years of nautical life, has gone through experiences of every kind, many of them of an exciting, and most, if not all, of an interesting nature.

As far back as the year 1883 Captain Filmer, who was the son of an old Kentish gentleman, started life as a junior officer on the British screw line of battleship *Orion* of 3282 tons, ninety-one guns, and as junior officer on the *Orion*. He was on board when that war vessel received sealed orders from the British Government to proceed to sea during the Trent trouble, which nearly precipitated a war between Great Britain and the United States.

The *Orion* was a full-rigged screw frigate of 3700 tons and fifty guns, big for a warship of her day, and formidably armed. When the appointed rendezvous for breaking the seal on the orders was reached young Filmer, with his heart in his mouth, learned to his great satisfaction that under the seal were orders for proceeding at once to Halifax and to be prepared to fight along with the Southerners. A glance at history during the early sixties will disclose the reason why Filmer on the *Orion* was never called upon to gird on his sword and fight, but for, some time he was at the Bermudas and witnessed some very exciting encounters in attempting to blockade running during the Civil War.

After five years' service in the British navy, Filmer's thoughts were guided into a peaceful channel, and he entered the merchant service as second officer of the steamer *Una*, which was one of the big passenger steamers of the day. Her engines were used as auxiliary aids to the canvas which she carried on her square-rigged masts. She was of 1000 tons register and was called a whale by nautics of the time. The *Una* belonged to J. Malcolmson of Portlaoise, Ireland, and was one of the fleet of first of sixty merchantmen owned by Malcolmson. Working in his strenuous way, Filmer, after two years had passed, was made first officer of the *Una*, and shortly afterward, was promoted to his first command as captain of the "Vesta" and afterwards of the *Nora* during which time he was engaged in the coastwise English trade, as well as commercial invasions on the coast of the Baltic, Mediterranean and Black seas.

That the exigencies of the times did not pro- vide seafarers with variety is abundantly borne out by the experiences of Captain Filmer about this time. For eight years he was engaged master at trading to New York and long before he got to middle age had sailed to the ends of the earth. His first command was made master of *Una* and shortly afterward was promoted to his first command as captain of the "Vesta" and afterwards of the *Nora* during which time he was engaged in the coastwise English trade, as well as commercial invasions on the coast of the Baltic, Mediterranean and Black seas.

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From the Russian coast trade to America, and from America to the Orient and the islands of spice and cinnamon, guiding his craft year in year out, without vacation and on ceaseless watch, with a brain that never wearied and a hand that seldom tired, Captain Filmer for close to half a century stood sponsor for the safety of many vessels and never failed in bringing them safely through the perils of the deep into a safe harbour. His is the history of many years' hard service, without a disaster or accident of any kind.

For eight years he was with Matheson & Co. of Ireland, for three with Powell & Co. of Liverpool, for six years with the *Watson, Steamship Company*, for eight years with *Monte & Co.* of Liverpool, for eight years with the world renowned *Holt* line, and from each and every one of these he holds the highest credentials that can possibly be granted to any man.

The dispensaries in Victoria will extend their activity in one direction still further in 1908. The directors of the *Tung Wa Hospital* have made an arrangement to employ the dispensary coolies in removing patients, and dead bodies to the hospital instead of employing—as they do now—outside undertakers. It is hoped that this arrangement will put an end to the irregularities which it is believed were connected with the old system. (See my report for 1904.)

The piece of ground in Kau U Fong bought in '95 for a dispensary has been found small and in May a yearly permit was obtained to copy an additional piece of land on which to build a shed for the ambulance and dead-box.

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

OPENING OF NEW BUILDING AT KOBE.

The *Japan Chronicle* of 22nd ult. says:—A large number of the business men of Kobe, including several Japanese, assembled yesterday at the handsome new building of the International Banking Corporation at 30, Asakimachi, to wish prosperity to the undertaking.

That the *Bank*, which has long outgrown the limitations of its old premises in Maybach, should require a further indication of the prosperity of Kobe, despite the prevailing depression, and the new building ranks with the most imposing in the Foreign Settlement. The site on which the building stands is quite an historical one, for it was here that the old Municipal Hall was situated—where the civic fathers of the pioneers of the port made the laws which governed that little international settlement forty years ago. The new building was afterwards occupied by a well-known steamship company and was destroyed by fire a little over a year ago. The new structure which now graces the corner has been built from the designs of Mr. A. N. Hansell, and the whole of the ground floor and basement is occupied by the International Banking Corporation, the upper part is, we understand, to be let for general offices. The staff of the *Bank* moved into their new premises yesterday, but the spacious general office presented a pardonably unbusinesslike appearance at noon, when Mr. N. S. Marshall, the new Manager, was introduced to many of the Bank's friends and clients for the first time, while the day was made the occasion of an informal farewell to Mr. J. D. Longmore, the late Manager, who is going home on leave. The guests, who were provided with light refreshments, hospitably dispensed by the staff, were shown over the premises, which were much admired. The strong rooms in the basement were examined with considerable interest, being built on the very latest principles, absolutely fireproof. They are lined with steel manufactured in Japan. The building has been in course of construction for about a year, and certainly reflects the status credit on the builders and architect, and the hope was generally expressed that yesterday's "house warming" would prove the beginning of a new and long continued prosperity for the International Banking Corporation.

Captain Filmer, though 65 years of age, still has the appearance of being in the prime of life. Through the years he has left some signs of age, yet is a fine example of a handsome, athletic and robust man. He has one son, W. C. T. S. Filmer, for some time commander of the *Yokohama*, who was recently married and went to Keelung partly on business and partly on pleasure. His son and son-in-law are the best known example of the good and well-educated sons of foreign families in these parts.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

MR. OSBORNE'S SPEECH.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph":—
Dear Sir,—I had the good fortune to be present during part of Mr. Osborne's eloquent address to the Council on the subject of the Amending Health Ordinance, and in common with others present could not but be impressed by the incisive oratory of the speaker. When, however, I subsequently read the speech in the paper, in my own home and removed from the constraining influence of the speaker's voice, I found much in his speech that was inconsistent and much that was based on incorrect premises. I will refer first to his statement that "the outcome of this state of affairs was the original and drastic Ordinance of 1901" described by the Commissioners as "the work of a novice." Mr. Osborne spoke at great length with this misquotation for a text. What the Commissioners did say was "The Public Health and Buildings Ordinance No. 1 of 1901 as originally drafted was (as was pointed out in the influentially signed petition against it) the work of a novice." This is quite a different thing. In the petition referred to the following passage occurs: "It reveals in the Bill the hand of the novice in building matters and one inappreciative of the rights of property. It shows that some provisions taken bodily from the English Statute book are practical and well drawn. It shows that others have been so altered in the taking as to be deprived of their original value and it exemplifies by many further instances the circumstance that throughout the Bill (with the single exception aforesaid) all the careful provisions of the English Acts for compensation, whenever private rights are infringed, have been scrupulously omitted." After receiving the petition the Government made many changes in the Bill before it finally became law but did not replace all the compensation clauses which had been "scrupulously omitted"—with what result to property owners we already know.

Yet in spite of numerous changes adopted upon the suggestions of owners, architects and others the ink-on-the-Bill was scarcely dry before whole sections of it were found to be unworkable and had to be amended. This looks as if the original draft was, if not the work of a novice, something equally indifferent.

Mr. Osborne was inconsistent in several ways. He commenced his speech by an unqualified condemnation of official administration. "To use his own words: from 1881-1884 the Colony was 'neglected, unguided and maturing in an atmosphere of drift'—not till 1894 did official apathy heedless of warnings yield to a sense of its obvious duty." After virtually accusing the Government of mal-administration for over half a century, he in a later part of his speech goes on to say: "To change this system (i.e. Crown Colony Government) for that of Government by an Elected Assembly would be fraught with injury to the Colony." His glowing eulogy of the Crown Colony system of Government loses much of its value following after his previous denunciation. His praise of officials as a whole is somewhat balanced by such expressions as "unless the high officials protect the public against the mischievous real, stupidity and arrogance of subordinates there will continue to be irritation, antagonism and trouble." This sounds almost like an echo of the Commission as also the expression "there should be some simple form of appeal." Mr. Osborne objects (inter alia) to a Municipality because civilians are "here to-day and gone to-morrow." If this is so are not officials here this morning and gone this afternoon? If this argument means anything it means that those who own, control, support and operate the commerce of the Colony, who possess practically all the property in it are more likely to ruin the Colony than those who would not be seriously affected by any calamity to the Port. It may be sound but it is not logic.

However, I agree with Mr. Osborne in not desiring a Municipal Council, not for his very inconsistent reasons, but for the same reason I do not desire the moon.

Having dealt with inconsistencies and incorrect premises I will now refer to Mr. Osborne's remarks about the Commission. He said "From the beginning to the end of the report there is not the faintest need of praise, not one word of approbation." The Commissioners were not instructed to award praise. If Sir Matthew Nathan had considered the Sanitary Department worthy of praise, no Commission would have been appointed. All the Commissioners had to do was to decide:—

(1) Whether the Administration of the Sanitary and Building Regulations as here carried out were satisfactory, if not, what improvements could be made.

(2) Whether any corruption existed or had existed. The Commissioners found that effective administration was conspicuous by its absence and that bribery and corruption amongst a considerable number of subordinates were rampant. They also suggested certain improvements. The charge of ineffective administration receives its answer and acceptance in the appointment of a cadet as administrative head with no other duties. The charge of corruption is endorsed by the imprisonment of one and the dismissal of several other subordinates. With regard to improvements, some of the Commissioners' suggestions are being adopted in whole or in part. No doubt, as Mr. Osborne points out, the conduct of some of the subordinates during the pernicious times of 1894 was worthy of praise but personal bravery in 1894 was outside the scope of the Commission.

It is true that the health of the Colony, especially as regards malarial fever, is better (the roads however on the lower levels are much worse) but I question very much whether the enormous sums spent in various plague measures have been very successful—we have not had much plague for some years, neither have Canton. Wheb Canton is infected and we are not I will believe. Meanwhile I am inclined to concur with the Hon. Messrs. Lockhart, May and Chatman who reported as follows:—

"This is one of the many workers and of the most drastic measures that the epidemic though undoubtedly confined within narrower limits was not gone under one day sooner than it ceased of its own accord in the neighbouring city of Canton where no steps whatever were taken to combat the plague."

Mr. Osborne says the prosperity of Hongkong is due to shipping but as Dr. Ho Kai pertinently remarked "what the shipping due to?" We have only three fundamental assets in this Colony and they are—

"(1) A deep water basin or harbour at the gate of the Capital of South China. (2) Safety of Commerce and the protection of the lives and liberties of individuals. (3) Abundant cheap labour."

Where these conditions exist shipping and industries will follow. The Health Ordinance and the Guilds have done much to make cheap labour a thing of the past, but plague excepted in so far as it produced the Health Ordinance has not increased the cost of labour.

Mr. Osborne does not seem to have much sympathy with landowners, but it is difficult to understand how individual property owners and the Colony as a whole should be saddled with the cost of maintaining for fifty-three years (or as long as possible) a special staff of responsible officials.

Official salaries have been increased by the

ALL LIBERTY.

CRIME IN NEWSPAPER SUED FOR \$10,000.

DAMAGES.

An action to recover the sum of \$10,000 for alleged libel was brought against the *Sai Kai Kung Yik Po* (Chinese newspaper, published in the Colony) and Lam Kok Sang, the printer and publisher, in the Supreme Court last Monday. The plaintiff was the *Tao Tsui Wo* firm, dealers in foreign goods, and they state that the alleged libel was published in six different issues of the defendant's newspaper, in February.

The Chief Justice (Sir Francis Piggott) presided. Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Otto Kung Sing, appeared for the plaintiff. Mr. M. W. Shadie, instructed by Mr. Steavenson of Messrs. Denton, Looker and Deacon, represented the defendants.

Sir Henry Berkeley stated that this was an action in which the plaintiff sought to recover damages for certain defamatory statements with regard to them in connection with their business, which appeared in the defendant's newspaper. He then proceeded to read the statement of claim as follows:—

(1)—The plaintiffs are merchants and carry on business at 149, Connaught Road Central, Hongkong.

(2)—The defendant is the proprietor, printer and publisher of the newspaper known as the *Sai Kai Kung Yik Po*.

(3)—On the 5th, 6th, 15th, 17th, 18th and 20th days respectively of January, 1908, the defendants falsely and maliciously printed and published in their newspaper a certain libellous article in the Chinese language referring to the plaintiffs' firm as follows:—

(Here followed certain Chinese characters copied from the paper in question.)

(5)—These words in Chinese mean in English, and were understood by those to whom they were published to mean:—"If these are such things how can he seize the company's property as his own property?" The *Tao Tsui Wo* are celebrated persons in the commercial circles of Manilla. Besides the branch shop, *Tao Tsui Wo* Lung, they also have established in Hongkong the *Tao Tsui Wo* foreign goods firm. It cannot be said that they are not rich (persons), and yet they have done such an act. It is not that owing to there being a great profit their greedy mouth is watered for it as if it were watered by rain? Is it not that they look strong in their outward appearance but are dried up internally and as they find it unable to pay out the aforesaid amount they are compelled to do such an act? Recently we have seen their correspondence published in a Hongkong paper giving false allegations regarding this matter and we therefore give a little explanation here and make known that between heaven and earth (i.e. in the universe) there are such unjust and lawless characters."

In the said article it is alleged that one Tao Hang Lun, a member of a certain firm in Manilla, known as the *Tao Tsui Wo*, had absconded and had in concert with the managers of the *Tao Tsui Wo* in the article described as "Unjust and lawless characters," conspired to defraud a certain company in Manilla, referred to in the article as the "Land Investment Company," and that the *Tao Tsui Wo* firm, celebrated, had established in Hongkong a branch known as the "Tao Tsui Wo" foreign goods firm (meaning the plaintiff's foreign goods firm and meaning that such firm was then connected in business with the *Tao Tsui Wo*).

5—5 p.m.—VISITORS' RACE, 50 YARDS BLIND-FOLD. Post entries.

1—C. J. Penie, 2—A. Ellis, 3—Macrae. There were 15 entries.

6—5 p.m.—CHILDREN'S RACE, 50 YARDS HANDICAP.—For children not over 7 years of age. Post entries.

1—M. Davy, 2—E. Stainfield, 3—E. Armstrong. There was a considerable number of children in this race, not less than 27 starting.

7—5.30 p.m.—LADIES' NOMINATION.

Each competitor must start from a given line, run to his nominator, get a cup three-fourths full, carry cup in a saucer, drink at post and show a dry saucer. The course is marked out by four chairs.

1. F. H. Kew, 2. R. Pestoojee, 3. R. Bass.

This race had to be run a second time, owing to disagreement on the part of the judges to decide the winners. There were 14 entries.

8—5.45 p.m.—SCRAMBLE RACE.—Before proceeding to the starting point each competitor must hand over to the committee his coat, vest, collar, tie and headgear. The articles will be distributed amongst various bundles, from which he must select his own garments and come in to the winning post properly dressed.

1. W. Allen, 2. A. Asger. This race was extremely amusing. It caused no end of merriment and laughter on the part of the spectators to see the desperate attempts of the competitors to fix their obdurate collars right. Many tried to run to the winning post before they were properly dressed, evidently with the object of completing their toilet on the way, but were again and again put back. There were six entries in this race.

At the conclusion of the sports, the Cricket Shield was presented to the Craigengower Cricket Club, together with the medal and individual prizes, by Mrs. Braidwood. This was followed by the distribution of prizes for the afternoon's sports. Mr. L. E. Lammert, captain of the Craigengower Cricket Club's team, in receiving the shield, received also a few words of congratulation from Mrs. Braidwood, who, when he replied in suitable terms, said that the closing season was one of all-round success.

Mr. Braidwood then addressed a few words to the gathering. He said that he found him-

self in a double capacity that afternoon as President of the Craigengower Cricket Club and Vice-President of the Hongkong Cricket League.

He thanked all concerned for their kindness in inviting his wife and himself to present the prizes. He regretted the absence of Mr. H. H. Hancock, President of the League, whom everybody would have been pleased to see that afternoon. Mr. Hancock takes the keenest interest in the League, and watches nearly all the matches. He was pleased to say that the season was remarkable, another way. This was the sportslike manner in which the runners-up, the R.G.A., bore their defeat. They were proud of such opponents. Lastly, he wished to thank all for their presence that afternoon. It was a pleasure to see such a large gathering, especially the ladies, with their gracious appearance and smiling faces. He wished to see them on a like occasion next year. A beautiful bouquet was presented to Mrs. Braidwood and three chears for Mr. and Mrs. Braidwood brought the proceedings to a close.

Following is a list of prize winners in Cricket and Lawn Tennis for the season:—

Cricket.—For highest batting average for 1907/08—R. Bass (Holder of Bellion Cup).

For best bowling average for seasons:—R. Pestoojee.

Special prizes for Cricket given by three members: Battling—H. J. Manderson, Bow—G. A. Hancock. For all round good play—G. Evans.

Lawn Tennis Tournament: Services—G. Evans, G. Green, and R. Bass. Handicaps—G. Evans, G. Green, and R. Bass.

Handicaps—G. Evans, G. Green, and R. Bass.

THE YANGTSE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The eighteenth ordinary general meeting of the Yangtse Insurance Association Limited was held at Shanghai on 28th ult. There were present Mr. James M. Young (Chairman), Mr. H. J. Such (Deputy Chairman), Messrs. John Pratiss, C. W. Wrightson, and George Miller, directors; Mr. W. S. Jackson, secretary; Messrs. G. Grayling, C. Brothurst, W. F. Ingles, R. Macgregor, F. D. Coults, F. A. Clark, E. H. Hutchinson, B. A. Clarke, D. M. Gibbey, E. W. Clement, G. M. Whelock, C. E. Geddes, G. S. Lindsay, A. McLennan, S. S. Benjamin, D. W. Crawford, W. B. Baynes, J. Clark, J. Ambrose, A. D. Lowe, F. B. Marshall, J. R. Patterson, A. S. Bremner, Chal Lai-fong, and Jeng Ping-ien. The total number of shares represented was 4,920.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, the Chairman said:—The Report and Accounts for the year ending on December 31, 1907, having been in your hands for some time, I presume, be taken as read, but before formally proposing the adoption and passing of the same I beg to offer a few remarks as usual on the occasion of our annual general meeting on the course of our business during the past year. The balance, at credit of Working Account 1906 and former years is \$12,802.74 against \$35,950.37 last year, and as stated in the report the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of 20 per cent on the 8,000 old shares, viz.—\$12 per share, which will absorb \$26,000, to place the sum of \$5,000, or the credit of a new fund to be called the Building Reserve Fund, and to carry forward the balance of \$27,802.74, owing to the fact that salvages we expect to recover exceed the amount of claims we estimate having to pay on former years account, makes this amount ample to meet any claims that we may not have anticipated. With regard to the \$5,000, which we recommend placing to a Building Reserve Fund, your directors considered that it would be better to open a fund which in years to come may enable the Association to build new offices without touching their other assets, rather than write down the value of their property, more especially so as the land and buildings are worth considerably more to us than they stand at in our books.

Proposed by Mr. R. Macgregor, seconded by Mr. F. B. Marshall: That Mr. George Miller be elected a director of the Association, and also that Messrs. James M. Young, H. J. Such, John Pratiss and C. W. Wrightson be re-elected directors to serve until the next ordinary general meeting of shareholders.

Proposed by Mr. A. McLennan, seconded by Mr. E. W. Clements: That Mr. G. H. Thompson be re-elected auditor to serve until the next ordinary general meeting of shareholders and that his remuneration be £1,250 per annum.

Proposed by Mr. J. Young, seconded by Mr. H. S. Such: That the directors are hereby directed and authorized to pay the Secretary and staff of the Association a bonus on their salaries for last year and that it be left to the Board to decide the amount, to be paid which however shall in no case exceed 20 per cent.

Mr. Jackson on behalf of the staff and himself thanked the shareholders for voting such a handsome bonus.

The Chairman announced that dividend warrants would be issued that night.

Mr. McLennan proposed a vote of thanks to the directors for the very able manner in which they had conducted the business of the Association and for the very excellent report placed before the meeting (Applause).

The Chairman thanked the shareholders on behalf of the directors, and the meeting terminated.

At the end of or after the new Capital was subscribed.

Directorate.—Mr. F. B. Skottowe, resigned his seat on the Board on his departure for Europe, and Mr. George Miller was invited to fill his vacant seat. Mr. Skottowe rendered very valuable services during the many years he was a director, during the best trials of the Association.

We have to regret the loss sustained by the death of Mr. C. M. Dyce, one of the Association's London Committee.

I have now said nearly all that has occurred to me as likely to interest you except one matter and that is the acknowledgement on the part of the Board of the services of Mr. Jackson and the other members of our excellent staff. (Applause); and the pleasure we have in asking your sanction to the payment to them of the same bonus as last year. A formal resolution to this effect will be proposed in due course.

Further, I only beg to say that if any shareholders have any questions to ask I shall be glad to answer to the best of my ability. (Applause).

There were no questions and the following resolutions were put and carried unanimously:—

Proposed by Mr. J. M. Young, seconded by Mr. H. J. Such: That the Report of the directors and Statement of Accounts for the twelve months ended December 31, 1907, as presented be accepted and passed.

Proposed by Mr. John Jackson, seconded by Mr. John Prentiss: That a dividend at the rate of twenty-five per cent, being fifteen dollars per share on the original paid-up Capital of the Association be declared, payable in full at Exchange 73 on the 20th inst. at the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China or the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Shanghai, to shareholders of record on the 22nd April, 1908.

Proposed by Mr. R. Macgregor, seconded by Mr. F. B. Marshall: That Mr. George Miller be elected a director of the Association, and also that Messrs. James M. Young, H. J. Such, John Pratiss and C. W. Wrightson be re-elected directors to serve until the next ordinary general meeting of shareholders.

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The Chairman thanked the shareholders on behalf of the directors, and the meeting terminated.

THE "MATSUSHIMA" EXPLOSION.

DETAILS OF THE DISASTER.

We have received the following telegram from Mr. Mashiko, Acting Consul for Japan, for publication:—On the 30th April, at 4.30 a.m., one of the Japanese training squadron, the *Matsushima*, sank in a few moments while anchoring at a port in the Pescadores, owing to the explosion of the after magazine. Only about 4 miles of the chimney are to be seen above the water at full tide.

According to the investigator, up to noon of May 2nd, 3 officers, 24 midshipmen, 7 non-commissioned officers and crew, numbering 205, were saved. The bodies of the captain, one officer, 27 midshipmen, one non-commissioned officer and 30 of the crew were found, but those of 10 officers, six midshipmen, and 11 crew are still missing.

Being prevented by the condition of the wreck it is very difficult for divers to discover the remainder of the bodies.

HONGKONG EMIGRATION.</div

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LTD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The report of the Directors to the seven-teenth ordinary annual general meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the Bank, Victoria Building, Hongkong, on Saturday, 10th inst., at noon, reads—

To the shareholders, the National Bank of China, Limited.

Gentlemen.—The directors now beg to submit to you the accounts and balance sheet for the year ending at December, 1907.

The accounts show that the balance of \$1,203,000 brought forward from last year together with \$150,000 from general reserve fund have been required in addition to the working profit during the year to make full provision for bad and doubtful debts in 1907, and previous years, as foreshadowed in the chairman's speech at the annual general meeting held in 1906. This will leave \$160,000 in general reserve fund and a balance of \$10,251.09 to be carried forward to next account.

The capital reserve fund which stood at \$152,020 on the 31st December, 1906, has been appropriated to the extent of \$160,701.66 to enable the last call of £40,453 (received at 2/3) to appear at 1/8 to the dollar in conformity with the rest of the capital.

Mr. C. Ewens retired in rotation from the Hongkong Board; but, being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

The accounts at head office have been audited by Mr. A. R. Lowe, Chartered Accountant, and Mr. E. A. Williams, A.S.A. (of the firm of Messrs. Lowe and Bingham).

Messrs. Deloice, Pender, Griffiths & Co., Chartered Accountants, audited the London Accounts.

Your Obedient Servant,

J. SCOTT MARSTON,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1908.

BALANCE SHEET 31ST DECEMBER, 1907.

Liabilities.

Authorized Capital:—

99,915 ordinary shares of £1
each £609,475

Issued Capital (at 15.8d. to the £):—

49,453 ordinary shares of £1
each £5 paid up £202,205

1906 call of £1. on
49,453 shares at
2/3 to the £ £80,734.34

Add. transfer from
capital fund reserve

to adjust ex. to 14.
£d. £104,701.66

£485,436.00

Capital reserve fund £2,912,616.00

Reserve fund £8,118.34

Notes in circulation 150,000.00

Fixed deposits, current accounts,
loans, &c. 1,544,621.87

Bills for collection and branch
balances 119,804.21

Drafts, acceptances and endorse-
ments (bills re-discounted) 2,675.43

Balance of profit and loss account 10,223.09

Assets.

Cash on hand and at banks \$ 348,833.00

Money at call and at short notice 600,000.00

Government securities, £50,000
at 91/2 551,724.12

Bills receivable, loans and ad-
vances 3,160,937.20

Bills for collection receivable
and branch balances 407,443.66

\$1,58,938.94

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Year ending 31st December, 1907.

Charges, directors' fees, salaries, etc. \$108,476.60

Provision for bad and doubtful
debts, etc. (after deducting
gross earnings) for the year
ending 31st December, 1907) 102,593.40

Balance to be carried forward to
next account 10,223.09

\$22,293.09

Balance brought forward from last
year \$ 71,293.09

Amount transferred from reserve
fund 150,000.00

\$22,293.09

SANDAKAN COAL.

The Sandakan correspondent of the *Singapore Free Press* writes on 29th ult. "We have had a good-sized, modern-day 'tramp' in here for coal, and Sandakan is putting herself on the back" for the way she acquitted herself on the occasion. "We understand the steamer was to go to the Cowie Harbour loading place, on Sebatik Island, near Tawau, but as she turned up here, and there was no time to go to Tawau, the coaling had to be done here." The *Amis*, the name of the vessel, is British, 2,466 tons gross, and 2,108 net, and was under the command of Capt. G. S. Bone. She arrived on the 28th from Manila, and left on the 19th for Singapore, there to load rice for Dunkirk. We hear she took some rooms of bunkers here in the meantime, which considering that the vessel arrived without fair warning, and having regard to the fact that nearly every ton had to be carted, and that by men utterly unaccustomed to such work, must be considered thoroughly satisfactory. Being absolutely light, she lowered away above the coal wharf, and this owing to the fact that she had no coal passing ports, meant a very considerable lift to the labourers." Talking about this coal, the various uses of it speak in very flattering terms of the quality of what is now being supplied to steamers. "The proof of the handling is in the 'sailing', and the 'sailing' in this case, is proving a success. We hear the steamer, the American steamer of Navigation, is to coal here in future; of course she will not take very much, but every little helps, and the more steamers we can get to come here for coaling the more we are likely to see business growing in other lines in this district. In the words of the classic, 'Let them all come!'

Editorial.

CORRESPONDENCE

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS ORDINANCE

To the Editor of the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH".

Sir.—The suggestion made by Hon. Mr. Pollock, K.C., during the debate on the second reading of the Bill now before the Legislative Council that a proviso be added, enabling the parties dissatisfied with the rulings of the Building Authority or Sanitary Board to have recourse by a simple mode of procedure to the Supreme Court is one of so just a nature and would I believe be so acceptable to the Committee that the Government should not for a moment defer to its enactment.

Prior to the passing of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance No. 1 of 1903, the right of appeal Hon. Mr. Pollock asks for actually existed as enacted by Ordinance No. 15 of 1889.

Section 87. "Whenever any person shall be dissatisfied with the exercise of the discretion of the Surveyor General in respect of any act, matter, or thing, which is by this Ordinance made subject to his discretion, the person so dissatisfied may in lieu of reverting to any legal remedy appeal to the Governor in Council who may make such order in respect thereof, as may be deemed expedient, and such order shall be final for all intents and purposes."

I therefore think if this Section were re-enacted it will do away with any suggestion that the aggrieved party was driven to any expense on account of appeal, because if he so approved he could appeal to the Governor in Council in lieu of going to the Law Courts:

Yours faithfully,

A. SHELTON HOOOPER.

Hongkong, 6th May, 1908.

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The crowd began to come early. First there was Sir Robert's private bank which took up its position on the platform nearest the Water Gate. Then there were two detachments of Chinese troops, one from the Police Corps and one in khaki from the North Camp. These had a bugle band and a brass band respectively. The Japanese were there and all the other Legation Guards had a Company in full dress uniform. The best looking were the Camerons. They certainly must have given Peking the pick of the regiment. The American troops were their close rivals; they always make a fine show. Someone remarked that the Chinese did not show up well alongside of any of the troops there.

Of course all the Legations were out in full, all the Custom officers, and many from the more private walks of life. To list all who were there would take more space than it is possible to use. The exclamation of a photographer who had been standing on a seat earning a vain to get a picture would well tell the story. He said, "Why, all you can get is people's hats." That was it, just one packed crowd.

The Chinese officials had come in from the Chien Men end of the station, so that they were at the west, except Na Tung, who circulated around in the crowd almost as much as Sir Robert Hart himself. H. E. Yuan Shih K'ai also came.

The private car had been brought out next to the first class coaches, contrary to the usual practice. It is usually at the end of the train. Here the crowd was thickest. Sir Robert Hart came in his chair, which stopped at the east end of the platform. He then inspected his band and each of the detachments of the soldiers having a word for each of the officers in charge. He proceeded thus to the west end of the line.

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The faces of a crowd are always a study of interest, and this crowd was no exception to the rule. One universal thought could be read there, however—that of sorrow at the parting. Some faces said very clearly that there was hope of a speedy return, others did not seem so confident.

As the train pulled out, all the bands struck up. Sir Robert stood on the back platform bowing to all as the last acknowledgement of what it all meant to him. On the front end of the car were Messrs. Sandycock and Law, who are to act as secretaries to Sir Robert till he is back in England. Then their fun-tough, which is due, will come on. For the first time in over 30 years the great Custom Machine will run with the founder of it out of the country. All the friends of China wish those who take over the burden of it the greatest success in its work.

LADY JORDAN SICK

One face that was missed on the platform was that of Lady Jordan wife of the British Minister, Sir John Jordan, is sick with typhoid fever. While the case is severe, we understand that there is no great danger, and a speedy recovery is hoped for.—*China Times*.

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A POPULAR CUSTOMS OFFICIAL

DEPARTURE ON PROMOTION.

[From Our Own Correspondent]

Canton, 5th May.

Mr. J. W. Loureiro, Acting Deputy Commissioner of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs in Canton, has been appointed Acting Commissioner at Kongmou. Mr. Loureiro left here this morning at 9.45 a.m. with Mrs. Loureiro to take up his new post. The British Consulate steps in the Bund Shambou, were crowded before the hour of the new Commissioner's departure, with personal friends, of both Mr. and Mrs. Loureiro, who, during their stay in Canton, have been most popular.

Among those present to accord to Mr. and Mrs. Loureiro an enthusiastic send-off, were the Commissioner of Customs and the whole of the Customs staff, both foreign and Chinese, all the Consuls, Mr. T. E. Griffith, Chairman of Municipal Council, and Mrs. Loureiro, and a number of lady friends of Mrs. Loureiro, and almost all the principal residents of Shambou. The departing official boarded the Customs launch *Kongmou* at Kongmou. As the launch cast off her moorings a salvo of crackers was let off, and amidst the deafening noise of the josses which two long strings of crackers made, were heard loud and long cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Loureiro.

Mr. Loureiro was promoted to the Customs service in Canton from Kowloon, Hongkong.

He has been a resident here since 1901 and

socially earned an excellent reputation for himself as being the best of "jolly good fellows." Last year he was elected chairman of the Canton Club, a position which he filled with considerable success and from which he was missed. His linguistic attainments made him an officer of exceptional value to the Customs service, especially in a community like that of Canton, so cosmopolitan in its character and where the conflicting interests require so much tact to successfully handle. While missing him from Canton, his many friends in this City will miss Mr. Loureiro every success followed by the appointment to a substantive Commissionership in the distinguished service to which he belongs.

JAPANESE YARN TRADE.

As already stated in our columns, the Cotton Spinners' Association adopted a resolution to suspend night work or decrease the number of spindles in operation, for the purpose of reducing the production of yarn. The resolution goes into force on the 1st proximo. It seems to be feared that some mills may ignore the agreement, for the headquarters of the Cotton Spinners' Association are sending officials to spinning mills in all parts of the Empire on the 30th ult., for the purpose of enforcing it. In the case of the mills which have determined to decrease the number of spindles in operation, the officials will seal up 27.5 per cent. of the spindles in accordance with the agreement. Commenting on this matter, the *Osaka Asahi* deplores that the commercial morality of Japanese industry should be so low, a level as to render such action necessary, especially in the case of spinning companies controlled by men of weight and influence.

Up to the end of last month the Settsu Spinning Company was working on forward contracts, but owing to the depression of the market in Japan, no new contracts have been taken for forward delivery since. Raw cotton has dropped of late, but it is reported that the company still has a large stock purchased at fairly high prices, and is now estimated that the company is producing yarn with a loss of V3 or V4 per bale. In addition the suspension of night work or a decrease in the number of spindles in operation will result in an increase of the producing cost, and the profit made is to be shared by the officials will be reduced.

Notwithstanding the fall in silver market on the Osaka Cotton Yarn Exchange showed an improvement on Saturday, the recent rates being considerably lower than the occasion warranted. The closing quotations on Saturday are compared with the closing rate on the previous day as follows:—

April 25, April 24.

April delivery V106.00 V105.50
May 104.40 104.05
June 103.65 103.25

Work on the addition of 3,000 spindles in the spinning department of the Kyoto Cotton Flannel Company has been completed, but in view of the agreement by the Cotton Spinners' Association to restrict the output, the new spindles will not be put in operation for three months.

The *Osaka Asahi* reports that the Kasuoka Spinning Company, of Okayama prefecture, which recently suspended night work, has been able to pay a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum for the half-year just ended, but if the operations of the mill be continued on the present conditions it is anticipated the company will lose about V7 per bale upon yarn produced.

A proposal has been made to temporarily close the mill, and wait for better times. The proposal will be laid before a general meeting called to-day, the 28th ult.

On the 28th ult. the *Osaka Asahi* reported that the spinning mill had been closed for a week.

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The Japanese Boycott.

YARN MERCHANTS' RESOLUTION.

STEAM-LAUNCH GUILD'S ADHESION.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 2nd May.

The merchants of those guilds, principally dealing in Japanese goods, such as marlins, denticles, cotton piece goods, porcelain and drug, etc., have already passed resolutions to join in the Japanese boycott movement; so the importation of Japanese goods and articles into the Southern capital is certain to greatly diminish day by day. There may still be Japanese goods to be imported by some merchants who have not yet taken part in the boycott, but the quantity to be imported by them will not be very material. Yesterday the merchants of another guild here fell in with the boycott movement. The cotton yarn merchants held a meeting in their guild hall and adopted a resolution to boycott Japanese cotton yarn from yesterday and also fixed a fine of \$500 to be imposed on any offender who may be found committing a breach of the agreement.

It is ascertained from the Chinese merchants here that the trade in Japanese products in many lines, with the exception of coal and matches, has gradually dwindled. The Chinese Steam-launch Guild has held several meetings for the purpose of taking steps to boycott Japanese coal and to get coal from other countries instead; but so far the launch-owners have not been able to find means for carrying out their scheme.

The Canton Self-Government Society has sent out circulars for a meeting on the 3rd inst. for the purpose of discussing matters in connection with the development of native industries.

CONSUL UYENO'S PROTEST.

Canton, 4th May.

The Japanese Consul at Canton has again made a representation to the Viceroy, lodging a complaint against the sale of those native-made envelopes on which are printed the characters, the equivalent of "Memorial of National Disgrace," or cartoons depicting the *Tatsu Maru* incident. The Viceroy has again been requested to prohibit the sale of such articles as mentioned by Consul Uyeno.

BANK NOTES AND VENS REJECTED.

Canton, 7th May.

Following the example set by the money-changers in Hongkong, those in Canton have now started to boycott Japanese bank-notes and clean yen. At the same time the money-changers here are of the opinion to encourage the circulation of the one-dollar silver pieces recently issued by the Canton Mint as well as the subsidiary coins that have accumulated in the market to a considerable quantity.

ACTION BY JAPANESE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

The Nagasaki and Yokohama (Japanese) Chambers of Commerce have been considering measures to be taken with regard to the boycott movement in China. As the agitation still shows a tendency to spread the Chambers of Commerce in Tokyo, Osaka, Yokohama, Kobe, Kyoto, and Nagasaki are reported to have now agreed to hold a conference shortly to consider the course to be taken. —*Japan Chronicle*.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST FOREIGN FIRMS.

The *Asahi* has received the following telegram from Canton:—A Chinese paper which has connections with an important commercial association, comprising almost all the leading Chinese merchants at Canton, and which is also the semi-official organ of the Viceroy, is actively supporting the boycott of Japanese goods. Representatives in various localities of the Canton Constitutional Government Association are inducing the people to hold "national disgrace commemoration meetings." They also send exaggerated reports to the newspapers. Many members of the Association have relationships with German firms, and there is reason to believe that certain Germans are defrauding part of the expenditure of the Association, in view of the fact that the Viceroy Chang at one time supported the Association, he appears to be unable to take any definite action against it. In consequence of a protest lodged by Mr. Uyeno, the Japanese Consul at Canton, the Viceroy issued a proclamation against the boycott, but its wording was vague and unemphatic. So far, no attacks have been made on Japanese, but, as many popular songs of a provocative nature are in circulation, the friendly relations between the officials and private individuals of the two nations cannot fail to be greatly affected. The Japanese advisers to Chinese offices will, however, not be dismissed. Chinese newspaper correspondents do not care to have interviews with Japanese, as they are afraid of incurring criticism from their friends. The attitude of Mr. Uyeno, the Japanese Consul, is approved by his countrymen.

It is reported in a Tokio message to the *Mainichi* that, although the Canton people have sent representatives to Hankow, Shanghai, and many other places on the Yangtze, to exhort the public to take up the boycott, the people at those places show much apathy in the matter. At Canton itself, however, there does not seem to be any immediate prospect that the boycott will come to an end. The message goes on to make the allegation that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd., and Messrs. Butterfield and Swire and other large firms at Hongkong are backing up the boycott. With regard to the Japanese shipping companies, the despatch says that the N.Y.K., the O.S.K., and the Japan-China S.S. Company have not yet been much affected, although there has perhaps been some decrease in the cargo carried by their vessels. The T.K.K., however, has already been considerably embarrassed as the *Nippon Maru*, *America Maru*, and *Hongkong Maru*, which have been taking many Chinese labourers to North America, are now almost entirely unable to get Chinese passengers. The Tobacco Monopoly authorities state that the export of Japanese tobacco to South China amounts to only about \$500,000 a year, so that the boycotting of this article would not appreciably affect China-Japanese trade.

The N.Y.K. Australian liner *Kumano Maru* arrived at Nagasaki on Sunday with about 50 tourists from Australia on board. The steamer, says the *Japan Times*, was little affected by the boycott movement in Hongkong and carried 100 tons of Chinese rice, consoeved by Chinese merchants. The *Nippon Maru* was boycotted at Hongkong and sailed for Australia with no cargo. The *Kumano Maru* carried no Chinese cargo from Sydney. As the bulk of the cargo hitherto carried by the N.Y.K. Australian liners between Sydney and Hongkong consists of Chinese consolments, the future is not hopeful. The strike of coolies which took place during the steamer's stay at Sydney was carried on with strong measures. The steamer, belonging to the

White Star Line, had to take in coal by her crew. The Space Bank at Hongkong is now greatly affected by the boycott and the money order and exchange business by Chinese is at a standstill. —*Kobe Herald*.

OSAKA-SHANGHAI-S.S. SERVICES AFFECTED.

The *Asahi* states that the Chinese boycott movement appears to be affecting the shipping service between Osaka and Shanghai. The Y.K. steamer *Kasuga Maru*, which was to leave Osaka for Shanghai to-day has obtained very little cargo from China. At present, the N.Y.K. steamers make two trips a week on this route, while Messrs. Butterfield and Swire have only one, but the Chinese seem to prefer to wait for the British vessels rather than patronise the Japanese. It is said that the N.Y.K. authorities at Osaka will consult the Head Office as to the steps to be taken in the matter. The Osaka Chinese are supposed to be acting under pressure from home.

ANTI-BOYCOTT MEASURES.

The *Tokyo Asahi* suggests to the Foreign Office authorities the advisability of adopting preventive measures against the further spread of the boycott movement in other parts of China rather than make any efforts in the affected centre to dissuade the natives from the foolish act. The Japanese Consuls are in intimate relations with the leading native merchants, because most of them have studied in China some time or other; they should in concert with Japanese merchants work for convincing the Chinese of the suicidal effects of the movement. The Foreign Office should be doing already this much at least, but the paper regrets to find the post of consul at Hongkong still vacant. A proper person should at once be appointed to the post. As to the expenses that these preventive efforts would involve, the Office should not hesitate to ask for an extraordinary outlay from the Exchequer. While feeling grateful to the English officials of the Hongkong Government for their prohibitory control over the movement, the paper would rather not see the Chinese Viceroy's name in Canton so stringent in repressive work as further to agitate and inflame the excited populace. In saying this the paper recalls the earliest instance of Chinese boycott, that of opium burning by Viceroy Lin, which led to the war with the English and subsequent cession of Hongkong. Compared with England's attitude, that of Japan in the *Tatsu Maru* affair can be said to be extremely generous. And yet these same people are dissatisfied with Japan's conduct, and are determined to boycott not opium this time but commodities of daily need. This change of situation impresses the paper as to the progress of the Chinese. They have indeed advanced so far as to cause the Englishmen to think of giving up the opium trade with China. But the display of their patriotism is taking a wrong direction. Their early repentance of the error is highly desirable. —*Japan Times*.

OPINION IN JAPAN.

There seems no question that the agitation in China for the boycott of Japanese goods is extending, particularly in the South, where the nationalistic movement has great influence, says the *Japan Chronicle*, editorially. Remonstrances or protests from the Japanese Minister at Peking, and even threats that Japan may demand an indemnity if her trade should suffer, are clearly of very little avail in the case of a boycott. Every one has the right to choose whether he will buy or abstain from buying, and it would be extremely difficult to control a decline in the volume of trade directly with an agitation for exclusive dealing. The Government of Peking is doubtless sincerely anxious to put a stop to the movement, having no wish to add to the causes of friction which already exist. But an active indifference, even if it could be attempted, would merely have the effect of driving the movement underground without injuring its force. The Chinese have shown, in the past, that they have almost unequalled power of organisation and combination to combat what they regard as injustice. Though the boycott of American goods, in retaliation for the treatment of China and the Chinese by the United States, is perhaps the most famous case of recent years, it was by no means the only example of the power of combination among the Chinese.

THE TRADE GUILDS.

have always wielded much power in this respect. In Mr. Jernigan's book on "China's Business Methods" he points out that the power of the guilds to favourably or unfavourably develop the trade of China, or compel redress for what they regard as an injury, is undeniable. An example of their power was given in the case of the riot at Shanghai in 1895. It is the custom that when a Chinese from Ningpo dies at Shanghai, his body is placed in a coffin and stored away until the opportunity offers to send it to Ningpo, and the matter is up that comes within the function of the Ningpo guild. There were a great many coffins containing dead bodies so stored in the French concession at Shanghai, and the French Municipal Council, in the interests of health, ordered their removal. The Ningpo guild resisted, and when the French authority determined to enforce its order a riot occurred in which several Chinese were shot by the French police and volunteer force. In retaliation the Ningpo guild issued a secret order for the suspension of all business, which resulted in several large steamships remaining at their wharves for weeks and the loss of much money. So long as the guild remained firm, every branch of business which drew its vitality from that source was paralysed. It was only by a compromise, in which concessions were made by both sides, that the dispute was finally settled. Commenting upon this incident Mr. Jernigan says:—

"It is not too positive to write, that it is within the power of the guilds to interfere with commercial intercourse in China, to seriously impair the commercial relations of Western nations with China, and to comparatively drive from the trade marks of the Empire the foreign products now sold in those markets, or to make the demand for them so exorbitant, or the imports, would scarcely have the courage to remove the organised obstruction or punish the obstructors."

In one of the *Swatow Imperial Maritime Customs Commission's* Decennial Reports there is also an interesting reference to the power wielded by the trade guilds, in which

THE MODUS OPERANDI.

of joint action by the members is explained. It appears that whenever a question crops up affecting any particular trade, the heads of the principal firms engaged in it first come to some agreement among themselves, then talk over the lesser firms, until they have gained a sufficient following; and only call a meeting of members to adopt what they have agreed upon as a rule of the guild.

Nothing seems to be left in open

meeting, if the dissentients are strong, the latter never comes before a meeting at all. Frequently the guild does not wish its action to be visible, and then no law are committed to writing, but a general understanding is arrived at, which seems to be just as binding as a formal contract. In this way a

rise and fall of the reigning government, with instances of wild Chinese history abounds, and rebellions at riots which occur in China from time to time, must be attributed to the fact that the weakness of the people is taken advantage of by unscrupulous men for the attainment of their selfish aims.

If the Chinese Government leaves severely alone a movement like the present boycott and its secret instigation on the part of subordinate officials, it will be tantamount to co-operation at the breeding of dangerous elements which some day might be turned against the Chinese Government itself. Such being the case, it is advisable that the Chinese authorities, for the sake of their own safety if for no other reason, should put vigorous and suppress a most ill-advised undertaking in which no one would be a greater sufferer than China herself. With regard to the rumour that Western merchants are actively interested in the prosecution of the crusade against Japanese goods, there may be no ground for such an assertion. The Japanese are accused of a similar charge when the boycott against America was in progress. Even though the report may be more or less true there can be nothing to object to in foreigners trying to extend the sale of their goods by utilising any opportunity that may present itself, so long as their methods are fair and above board. The European and American merchants, who are, as a rule, men of clear foresight and common-sense, are not likely to have recourse to such underhand practices as are laid at their door for the furtherance of their interests.

ALLEGATION AGAINST THE BRITISH PRESS.

The *Mainichi Denpo* also discusses this all-absorbing subject: Despite the alleged efforts of the Chinese Government to check the movement and the optimistic views of the Japanese Foreign Office, says this journal, there is no denying the fact that the boycott is spreading like wildfire. It is stated that the Viceroy of Canton, while outwardly professing to be anxious to check the spread of the boycott, is merely taking some means to that end in a manner of form, thus in reality countenancing the movement. It is further said that the boycott is backed up and instigated by some interested parties and that "all the English papers in Canton" (etc.) are writing in a manner very injurious to Japanese interests. The fact, remarks the *Tokyo Journal*, that amongst the parties who are supposed to be supporting the boycott there are Englishmen is most regrettable. The Japanese Government ought to institute inquiries, and if the allegation is well founded should make a representation to the British Government with a view to averting any unpleasantness that may thereby be occasioned between Japan and England.

A Peking message to the *Asahi* states that the majority of foreign representatives in Peking, seeing that their countries have common interests in the matter, show a disposition to hope that Japan will take determined action in the matter of the boycott, contrary to the irresponsible attitude (sic) taken by the U.S. Government against the recent boycott of American goods.

We learn from a Tokyo message that Chinese merchants in Yokohama are much distressed consequence of the boycott and they have been holding meetings to discuss measures for the relief of the situation. It is said that they have vainly appealed to their Consul for assistance, though what he could do it is difficult to see. They are also said to have appealed to their customers at home, only to be told that they were placed in a similarly distressing position, having been forced to join the agitation. Nothing could be done but wait with patience. This dispatch adds that Japanese goods are saleable, but customers in China will not accept goods if drafts are not drawn on shipment. Such a course is impossible for Chinese merchants in Yokohama, and they are said to be now reduced to a very critical position.

WITHDRAWING THE SCHEME.

The whole matter was a very simple one and did not call for the comments which had lately appeared in the papers. He could not, of course, definitely say as yet whether the prize ticket system would be a success. If it failed, the only losers would be the Japanese spinners.

While we have to thank Mr. Buto for his courteous statement, we are bound to say that he does not seem to us to have established his contention that a lottery element does not enter into the scheme. By his own admission purchasers of the yarn have the chance of winning large prizes, and, while it is true that the tickets are not actually sold, the fact that a coupon can be obtained by the purchase of a forlorn part of a bale makes it easy for Chinese with an interest in the yarn trade to indulge in what is little less than a gamble.

JAPAN'S STERN DIPLOMACY.

Japan is paying a high price for the stern diplomacy it exercised in the *Tatsu Maru* incident. Japanese honour was avenged all right but the loss in prestige and dollars that has ensued has made the "successful diplomatic settlement" a very paltry thing.

We publish to-day the text of a remarkable compact signed by the men who control the trade of South and Central China and if it is enforced with any vigour for even a few days it means the loss of many millions of dollars more to the merchants of Japan. The losses already have been tremendous and they come at an ill time for the fortunes of commercial Japan, already sadly impaired by other circumstances.

It is very difficult to say just what Japan can do to check the boycott. The Chinese government has placed itself in what diplomacy calls a "correct attitude" by officially disapproving of the boycott and directing the vicinity of Canton to destroy Anti-Japanese placards and otherwise discourage the movement, and the Government is the only institution with which the Japanese can deal.

There remains the old resort of force and the Japanese have made a feint at it by dispatching a squadron to South China, but there are many objections to the use of force. Japan is financially crippled, the powers would be resentful, and there would be a mere lasting feeling of sullenness engendered among the Chinese by further castigation.

If the Chinese boycotters resort to violence there will be ample excuse for armed intervention, but so far the Chinese have very cleverly avoided that. It will be noted that the boycott compact contains no actual mention of the Japanese.

The Chinese erred in the method of seizing the *Tatsu Maru* and were guilty of a violation of the Japanese flag, but at the same time the mission of the ship was an improper one. She carried arms for rebels in a country with which Japan was at peace and the Japanese government should have given liberal recognition to the fact. Instead there was more highhandedness—on the same plane as the Fukien railway incident—and now Japan is paying the price. —*Manila Times*.

Some secession of the Japanese Press would appear to have begun to take alarm at the persistence with which the Chinese are putting forward the boycott movement against Japanese goods, and the rapidity with which the agitation is spreading in China. The *Yomi* says that the boycott has not only adversely affected the sale of Chinese marine produce, cotton, and other goods, but the Japanese ships trading to China are also suffering more or less from the effect. That those Chinese people must be the Chinese themselves and that the movement will have spent its force in due course if left alone is the opinion held by thoughtful men. It is, however, rather surprising, says the *Yomi*, to hear that the feeling against Japan is being secretly stirred up by some Europeans and Americans for their selfish ends. The Japanese ships trading to China are also suffering more or less from the effect. That those Chinese people must be the Chinese themselves and that the movement will have spent its force in due course if left alone is the opinion held by thoughtful men. It is, however, rather surprising, says the *Yomi*, to hear that the feeling against Japan is being secretly stirred up by some Europeans and Americans for their selfish ends.

According to intelligence from Canton the boycott was first started by the Canton Self-Help Society, and it has been enthusiastically aided by the Chinese naval officers who took part in the *Tatsu Maru* episode. The movement also seems to be encouraged by some Western merchants in China who are endeavouring to extend the market for their goods by taking advantage of the incident. It is not difficult to imagine that the local authorities at Canton are not particularly active in their efforts to suppress the boycott, though outwardly so acting under instructions from Peking. It is one of the special traits of the Chinese people to form a strong combination for the accomplishment of a declared object.

This characteristic, if judiciously made use of, might develop into such useful institutions as local self-government, which should form the basis of a representative system of government. At the same time it is hardly to be expected that the Chinese will be able to be induced to do this, as they are not accustomed to do it.

Nothing seems to be left in open meeting, if the dissentients are strong, the latter never comes before a meeting at all. Frequently the guild does not wish its action to be visible, and then no law are committed to writing, but a general understanding is arrived at, which seems to be just as binding as a formal contract. In this way a

The Yarn Lottery.

SCHEME NOT ABANDONED.

STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT OF KANEIGAFUCHI SPINNING CO.

Mr. Carver said a small quantity was found in the cabin of the *Opium Farm*.

Mr. Carver:—Don't you suggest that the *Opium Farm* put the opium in the Captain's cabin?—No, I don't. One of the crew must have put it there.

Further cross-examination:—Witness said they did not search his or the Captain's cabin.

The entries were all made by him while he was there and with the same pen and ink.

Then I have nothing further to say to you.

Mr. Mcintyre, chief engineer, told of searching the engine room three times.

Mr. Carver:—They don't try any tricks in your engine room?

Witness:—I don't understand you.

They don't put opium there?—No, not at all.

J. Beatty, second officer, said morphine was found in his cabin. He did not see it there when he searched.

Mr. Simpson:—I thought that the opium was found on board the steamer. He suggested that a small fine would meet the case.

LOG TIME EXPENDED WITH.

Mr. Carver said it was one of the worst cases he had ever known. The log had been tampered with by the officers. He did not believe that any search was made at all.

The *Opium Farm* was owned by Chinese at Samnang.

Mr. Simpson:—It was their misfortune that the opium was found on board the steamer. He suggested that a small fine would meet the case.

His Worship said it seemed to him to be a very bad case. He had no hesitation in saying that the log had been falsified. That made the case worse.

He imposed a fine of \$400 and costs.

Mr. Carver said a small quantity was found in the cabin of the *Opium Farm*.

Mr. Carver:—Don't you suggest that the *Opium Farm* put the opium in the Captain's cabin?—No, I don't

THE HOTEL TRAGEDY.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUICIDE.

8th inst.

Inquiries made by a *Hongkong Telegraph* reporter to-day relative to the suicide of Mr. F. W. Mackenzie, which took place yesterday afternoon, in the Oriental Hotel, elicited the information that the deceased left two letters addressed to friends or relatives in which it is presumed, the motive for the suicide is explained. The deceased was a man about fifty years of age, well built and well preserved, and had been employed in the Quartermaster's department of the United States, at Honolulu, as a superintendent since 1903. He has been a frequent visitor to Hongkong and was quite well known here. He arrived here by the Canadian liner from Vancouver, where he had gone on a twelve months' holiday.

LOSS OF THE "MATSUSHIMA."

MANILA'S SYMPATHY.

Baguio, May 3.

The Governor-General, immediately upon receiving word of the loss of the Japanese vessel *Matsushima*, sent the following telegram to the Japanese consul:

Baguio, May 2, 1908.

His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Consul.

Have received sad news of loss of *Matsushima*, with her captain and fifty officers and men. Permit me to say that this accident, with its accompanying loss of life and property, has caused all of us profound sorrow and regret. Our sorrow is all the more keen in view of the fact that the captain of the *Matsushima* and those who lost their lives with him, were but lately our guests and during their brief stay had won for themselves the deep regard of every one with whom they came in contact.—SMITH.

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. E. S. Kadour & Co. write on the 1st inst.:—Business has been moderately active since the issue of our last circular and the demand for stocks has been very general.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks can be had at \$692. The London rate remains unchanged at 73 10.

Marine Insurances.—Cargos are obtainable at \$240. Unions have sellers at \$797. Yangtze can probably be had at \$150, ex the dividend and bonus of \$5 per share paid in Shanghai on the 28th inst.

Fire Insurances.—China Fires have improved to \$10, closing with buyers at the rate. Hongkong Fires are firmer and can be sold at \$310.

Shipping.—China and Minillas and Douglas are unchanged and without business to report. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats are in demand at \$29, but none are obtainable at the rate. Star Ferries old and new, can probably be placed at quotations.

Refineries.—Sales of China Sugars have been effected at \$135. Luxons and Peink Sugars are unchanged and without business to report.

Mining.—Chinese Engineers have improved to \$16, with small sales at the rate. Rubber have ruled firmer at \$82.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Kowloon Wharves have been fixed at \$53. Whampoa Docks are ready at \$103. There are buyers of Shanghai Docks in the North at \$18, while Hongkew Wharves are on offer at the reduced rate of \$12.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands have found buyers at the slightly reduced rate of \$99. Hongkong Hotels can be secured at \$56. Humphreys Estates have been dealt in, to a fair extent at \$10, closing with further buyers at the rate. Kowloon Lands are in further demand at \$16, and West Points at \$48. Shanghai Lands have declined to \$114 with sellers.

Cotton Mills.—Ewos can be sold at the improved rate of \$18. Hongkong Cottons are firmer at \$10, and buyers prevail. Other stocks under this heading are unaltered.

Miscellaneous.—Further sales of China Providents have taken place at \$9. Green Island Cements have been sold in small lots at rates between \$10 and \$10, ex the final dividend of 75 cents per share, paid on the 27th inst. Hongkong Electrics have inquiries at \$16, but sellers are not forthcoming. Union Water-boats have found investors at \$12, and Watsons at \$10. A substantial rise in Langkats has taken place, and buyers rule the Northern market at \$18. Sums are wanted at \$18. A further improvement in Hongkong Ropes has set in, and the stock has risen to \$33, with probable buyers. It is noticed that at an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders of this Company, to be held on the 9th inst., the following resolutions will be proposed. 1.—That the capital of the Company be increased to 160,000 by the creation of 10,000 new shares of \$10 each. 2.—That the articles of association be altered by inserting immediately after clause 10 two new clauses as follows:—(1) The company in general meeting may in the year 1908 pass a resolution to the effect that it is desirable to capitalise the sum of \$160,000 being part of the undivided profits of the company standing to the credit of the company and accordingly that that sum be distributed as a bonus amongst the shareholders in proportion to the shares held by them respectively, and that the general managers be authorised to distribute amongst them the 10,000 undivided shares in like proportions. (2) When such resolution has been passed the general managers may allot and issue the 10,000 unissued shares credited as fully paid up to the shareholders in satisfaction of the said bonus and prior to such allotment the general managers may authorise any person on behalf of the shareholders to enter into any agreement with the company providing for the allotment to them of such shares credited as fully paid up and in satisfaction as aforesaid and any agreement made under such authority shall be effective.

Exchange.—The Banks' selling rate on London is 1/9 5/16 on demand. The T.T. rate on Shanghai is 7/4.

Dividends Payable.—Hongkong Electrics—dividend of \$1 and bonus 40 cents for 1907 payable on the 2nd May.

8th inst.

A slightly better feeling prevailed in our market during the week under review, and a fair general business has been transacted.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have improved to \$105, after sales at \$98 1/2. London, the rate, has risen to 7/4.

Marine Insurances.—Cargos are on offer at \$105. Unions have sellers at \$797. Yangtze and Ewos can be sold at \$797.

Fire Insurances.—There are buyers of China Fire Insurances at \$105, but none are obtainable at the rate. Star Ferries have been effected at \$100, and more can be placed at the rate. Star Ferries old and new, can be sold at \$105.

Shipping.—China and Manillas are obtainable at \$105.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

CAPTAIN W. Nicholson, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, has been granted leave of absence for one year from the 21st ult.

THE sir *Bronchites* collided at Moji on 23d ult. with the sailing ship *Manikit Maru* whose bow was broken. There were no casualties.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. M. Reid, R.A.M.C., has been appointed a member of the Sanitary Board during the absence on leave of Colonel H. Martin, Principal Medical Officer.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct that the Ordinance No. 1 of 1908, entitled An Ordinance to amend the Fire Brigade Ordinance, 1868, shall come into operation as from the first day of February, 1908.

THE Registrar General says that an increase of 50 per cent. in the revenue from import charges' licences last year is due no doubt to the great discount at which the silver subsidiary coinage stood for a part of the year.

His Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to the Ordinance to facilitate the admission in evidence of statutes passed by the Legislatures of British possessions and British protectorates, including Cyprus.

A CHINIAN residing at Wanchai was found dead in his house last Saturday morning. There are no suspicious circumstances in connection with the case. The deceased, whose name is unknown, had a considerable banking account in one of the local banks.

A LONDON cable of April 13th to the *Hochi* reports that the British Government is about to lodge a protest against the price tickets attached to Japanese cotton yarns exported to China, considering that such an attempt to capture Chinese trade is unfair.

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, the King, to the following Ordinance passed by the Legislative Council.—Ordinance No. 1 of 1908. An Ordinance to enable foreign corporations to acquire and hold land

in trust of the Crown of Victoria.

Refineries—China Sugars have ruled steady at \$135. Luxons and Peink Sugars continue quiet at quotations.

Mining.—Chinese Engineers are slightly firmer and can be sold in the North at \$18. 15 1/2. The interim dividend of 16 per share, paid on the 1st inst., small sales of Rauba have been put through at \$83.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Whampoa Docks have strengthened to \$104. Shanghai Docks are stronger, and buyers prevail in the North at \$18, while Hongkew Wharves have been put through at \$83.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands have again been sold at \$99. Humphreys Estates are in a further demand at \$10, and Kowloon Lands at \$105. West Points are in request at \$18. In the North, Shanghai Lands have received to \$18. 13 1/3, closing with sellers at the rate.

The Directors of Llewellyn & Co., Ltd., will recommend the payment of a dividend of 50 per cent. equal to ten per cent on the capital, at the meeting of shareholders to be held on May 15.

We are glad to learn that the claims of the Russo-Chinese Bank amounting to some Rs. 10,000,000 against Tung Shueh-ho at Newchwang have been settled by the Chinese Government.

VICE-ADmirAL the Hon. Sir Hedworth Lambton, G.C. V.O., commanding the China Squadron, arrived at Shanghai on 20th ult. on board H. M. S. *Alacrity*, which is now moored at the Senior Naval Buoy.

H. E. CHAO HSU-SEN, Viceroy of the Hukwang provinces, has ordered the Finance Bureau of Wuchang to draw a large sum of money from the Emergency Fund of the province of Hubei to relieve the sufferers from the late typhoon of Hankow.

The action brought by the Tao Tsui Wo Company of 107 Connaught Road against the proprietor of the *San Kai Lung* *Yik Pa* for \$10,000 damages for alleged libel, was concluded last Tuesday. His Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiffs for \$500, the sum paid into Court, with costs.

In order to promote the circulation of the banknotes of the Ta-Ching Ying Ho, or National Bank of China, the Board of Finance has decided to use notes to pay the monthly salaries of all civil and military officers and officials in the capital. If it is practicable then the system will be extended to the Provinces.

A CHINESE woman leaning over the verandah at 27, Batory Street, Yau-pan-ti, with the object of pinching some washing on the clothes line last Tuesday afternoon, unfortunately overbalanced herself and fell to the ground—a distance of some fifteen feet. She landed upon her head and became unconscious. Inspector McHardy, of the Yau-pan-ti Police Station, had her removed to the Government Civil Hospital.

A TAIPEH message to the *Amoy* states that operations were opened on the morning of the 22d ult., under the protection of a police force of 1,700, for the advance of the defence line against the tribes of aborigines in the south of Giras, Formosa. The line is to be advanced about thirty-five miles, in which forest land covering 30,000 cho is included. It is stated that there is an immense number of camphor trees in this forest.

From Saigon to this demand for tonnage has been practically nil, and the rate is now changed to 1/10 cents only.

Contrary to recent expectations, some fresh inquiries have come on the market for Saigon-Philippines tonnage, resulting in the fixtures of a few vessels on basis of about 24/25 cents to 1/10 cents.

Saigon to Singapore another settlement has taken place of lump sum basis. From Saigon to other destinations, no demand traceable.

Java and Bangkok require no outside tonnage. According to latest reports "liners" on the Bangkok-Hongkong run have lowered their rates to 25/28 cents.

Newchwang/Canton there has been a slight inquiry, but no charter appears to have resulted on account of the unfavourable terms offered by charterers.

Coal Freights.—Business done Hongay/Canton at \$1.80, Pulo/Lantau/Pulo at \$1.50, Moji/Hongkong at \$1.50 and \$1.55, Wakamatsu/Canton at \$1.40, and Moji to Amoy at \$2.25.

Sail Freights.—Nothing doing.

Sail Tonage loading or to load.—None.

Sail Tonnage.—None.

Departure of Sailors.—Brit. bark *Arrow*, April 18th, for New York.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T.	1/0
Do. demand	1/0 1/16
Do. 4 months' sight	1/9 7/16
France—Bank T.T.	1/0
America—Bank T.T.	1/0
Germany—Bank T.T.	1/0
India T.T.	1/0
Do. demand	1/33
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	7/4
Singapore—Bank T.T.	31 1/2 % prem.
Japan—Bank T.T.	86
Java—Bank T.T.	106

Buying.

1 months' sight L/C.	1/9 9/16
6 months' sight L/C.	1/9 11/16
10 days' sight San Francisco & New York	45
4 months' sight do.	1/0
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne	1/0 13/16
4 months' sight France	1/25
5 months' sight	1/28
4 months' sight Germany	1/86
Bar Silver	24 3/16
Bank of England rate	1/0 3 %
Sovereign	51 1/16

London—Bank T.T.

Do. demand

France—Bank T.T.

America—Bank T.T.

Germany—Bank T.T.

India T.T.

Do. demand

Shanghai—Bank T.T.

Singapore—Bank T.T.

Japan—Bank T.T.

Java—Bank T.T.

Buying.

1 months' sight L/C.

6 months' sight L/C.

10 days' sight San Francisco & New York

4 months' sight do.

30 days' sight France

4 months' sight

4 months' sight Germany

Bar Silver

Bank of England rate

Sovereign

London—Bank T.T.

Do. demand

France—Bank T.T.

America—Bank T.T.

Germany—Bank T.T.

India T.T.

Do. demand

Shanghai—Bank T.T.

Singapore—Bank T.T.

Japan—Bank T.T.

Java—Bank T.T.

Buying.

1 months' sight L/C.

6 months' sight L/C.

10 days' sight San Francisco & New York

4 months' sight do.

30 days' sight France

4 months' sight

4 months' sight Germany

Bar Silver

